

# THE JOURNAL

Friday, April 28, 2006

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**Sports** El Cerrito pitcher beats the flu, tosses a no-hitter [C1]

**Arts & Leisure** Jazz is on the upswing in East Bay venues [C10]

## Property owners reject landscaping fee hike

Bulk of 'no' votes came from owners of properties with businesses and multi-family residential units

By Alan Lopez

El Cerrito property owners have rejected a request for an increase to the city's lighting and landscaping fees.

Fifty-five percent of the votes were against increasing the city's lighting and landscaping assessment, said Karen Pinkos, the assistant to the city manager, earlier this week.

Though they constitute only a small percentage of properties, the bulk of the "no" votes apparently came from owners of properties with businesses and multi-family residential units such as apartments, Pinkos said. Pinkos

also said 25 percent of the "no" votes came from property owners who live outside the city.

"I'm disappointed that it didn't pass," Mayor Janet Abelson said. "I had underestimated the impact of absentee landowners."

Votes were weighted according to how much each property owner was asked to pay. The city counted 273,000 "no" votes and 220,000 "yes" votes.

The city counted 3,769 ballots

out of 8,798 sent to property owners — a 43 percent return.

Abelson said voters may also have had difficulty "buying into" an election that allowed property owners to vote but not individuals.

"I didn't like it myself," she said.

The election was required under Prop. 218, which California voters approved in 1996. Prior to Prop. 218, cities could create as-

essment districts and raise fees as long as a majority of property owners did not file written protests.

The council instituted the lighting and landscaping assessment in 1988. Lighting and landscaping maintenance costs the city \$1.1 million annually, but the fees currently total only about \$700,000.

Last month, the city mailed ballots to commercial and resi-

dential property owners asking them to increase their total assessment by about \$400,000 to bridge the difference. That amount currently comes from the city's general fund. Because property owners have rejected the increase, there's no guarantee it will continue going toward lighting and landscaping maintenance, Abelson said.

See LANDSCAPE, Page A9



**Bruce Harter**  
Superintendent of the West Contra Costa County School District

### BIOGRAPHY

AGE: 58

**SALARY:** \$225,000 a year, with a year contract. A \$50,000 housing bonus, car allowance, pension and other benefits lift the total to about \$275,000.

**FORMER DISTRICTS:** Claymont, Del., and Lee County, Fla.

## Harter named schools chief

By Shirley Dang

STAFF WRITER

The West Contra Costa school named Bruce Harter superintendent Wednesday, capping eight-month national hunt for leader to run the county's second-largest school district.

The 58-year-old takes the helm of the 32,000-student West Contra Costa Unified School District. He will make \$225,000 a year salary, said board President Charles Ramsey. The four-year contract also gives Harter about \$50,000 for housing and car allowance, pension and other benefits, bringing his total compensation to \$275,000, Ramsey said. Harter will leave his job as superintendent of the 11,000-student Brandywine School District in Claymont, Del., where he started as superintendent in 1998 and earns a \$154,000 salary.

See HARTER, Page A9

## Hills papers part of sale to MediaNews

By George Avalos and James Temple

STAFF WRITERS

Hills Newspapers will change ownership as part of a deal announced this week in which The McClatchy Co. will sell the Contra Costa Times, San Jose Mercury News and two other newspapers to MediaNews Group Inc. Denver-based MediaNews already controls several East Bay papers, including the Tri-Valley Herald, Fremont Argus, Hayward Review and Oakland Tribune. MediaNews also is buying Monterey County Herald and Paul Pioneer-Press in Minnesota as part of the \$1 billion

See SALE, Page A9



REV. HUBERT IVERY laughs as he has to relight a candle symbolizing Christ's love after a child blew it out during the Easter service at El Cerrito United Methodist Church. The church is celebrating its centennial anniversary this weekend.

## Church seeks balance of old, new

■ The United Methodist Church is celebrating its centennial this weekend with a spring carnival and worship service

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

Not all parishioners supported an idea to include Lucifer in a play about the life of Christ performed at the El Cerrito United Methodist Church.

In response, choir director John Partridge made some changes to Chiaroscuro, a three-part play he wrote that began with Christ's birth last Christmas Eve and ended with a retelling of the resurrection on Easter.

Partridge acknowledged that the performances, which included dance, music and projected images, were a little darker than traditional church fare, and may have put some people off.

"I wrote this thing to be an experimental service," Partridge said. "Most people really liked this."

After 100 years, the El Cerrito church is trying to strike a balance between experiments that may draw new members while pleasing its longtime constituency. It's an age-old story for the El Cerrito church, whose struggles to modernize resulted, according to some, in racial tensions 26 years ago.

See METHODIST, Page A9



OSCAR ROMO of El Cerrito United Methodist Church started Technical Resources for Educational Excellence, which puts computers in the hands of underprivileged youth. Romo, who gets help from church members, looks for businesses willing to donate computers.

## Incidents prompt debate over efficacy of school police



POLICE OFFICERS at West Contra Costa district schools have been a source of debate among parents, school board members and principals. Critics say the officers represent more of a danger than a defense; they are paid little and denounce their lack of support.

By Shirley Dang

STAFF WRITER

A police officer swears to serve and protect.

But in the West Contra Costa school district, dissatisfied parents, principals and school board members say the district's police force represents more of a danger than a defense.

In 2003, an officer was stabbed during a burglary and later that year accidentally fired his gun on a Pinole campus. In 2005, an officer answered a middle school alarm but failed to nab the four juvenile vandals who went on to cause \$30,000 in damage. In March, the school district fired two officers linked to a fatal off-campus shooting.

A 2002 audit painted the

squad as a dysfunctional group of poorly equipped and largely unsupervised agents, many of whom lack proof of state-mandated training yet patrol the district's 60 campuses armed with guns.

"I'm telling you, if there's an accident, and one of these people draws a gun and injures a student, everybody will go, 'Why didn't you do something? How did this happen?'" said school board member Karen Pfeifer, one of the most ardent critics of the force.

"We're in a very compromised situation. I believe the community wants us to do something."

Pfeifer has been pushing to dismantle the school police force and contract entirely with local

law enforcement agencies that already station officers at certain campuses.

Earlier this month, the school board voted to hire a Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office deputy to patrol high schools until the end of the school year. The board also contracted a second El Cerrito Police Department officer to work full time at that city's only high school.

The outside contracts — which are partly to compensate for understaffing in the district force — drew the ire of Local 1 union leaders and district police officers. They blame the school board for not committing enough money to properly run the force.

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### At the Library

■ The importance of members, industry and community for librarians. Page A6



### Martin Snapp

■ Why Sunday school children are raising money to buy a water buffalo. Page A3

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Crossword .....C5



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## NEWS BRIEFS

## Albany

## City seeking grant proposals

Albany is seeking grant proposals from nonprofit organizations, local public agencies, individuals, or other organizations for programs that enrich life in Albany and further the city's goals.

The total amount available is \$2,500. Call Eileen Harrington at 510-528-5710 for an application or e-mail cityhall@albany.org. The deadline for applications is May 19.

— Alan Lopez

## School district to discuss parcel tax priorities

The Albany school board will discuss how to spend recently-approved parcel tax money at a meeting Saturday morning.

The board will receive a list of priorities selected by parents and staff at the district's six schools. At the meeting, residents can offer their priorities as well.

"It's even required in the ballot language," school district Superintendent Willie Wong said. "That we have at least one public hearing."

Albany voters approved a parcel tax last November that will raise \$2 million a year for the district for the next seven years. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. at the Albany High School multipurpose room, 603 Key Route Blvd.

Call 510-558-3766 for more information.

— Alan Lopez

## High school hosts forum on teen alcohol use

A forum about teenagers and alcohol consumption will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Albany High School library, 603 Key Route Blvd.

The forum will address binge drinking and discuss what students should do if their friends drink too much or too often; how drinking affects students; what to do if someone gets sick; and how parents can help their children learn to drink responsibly before college.

The Albany High School Parent Education Committee is sponsoring the forum, dubbed "What happens when kids drink too much ... and what can we do about it?"

— Alan Lopez

## City to cite parked cars during street sweeping

Police will cite residents for \$28.25 if they park their vehicles when roads are being swept on Solano Avenue side streets and on the 800 and 900 blocks of Pierce Street.

The Albany City Council recently authorized 300 "no parking" signs in those areas prohibiting people from parking for four hours one day a month.

Few people in those areas are complying with a request to not park during street sweeping times.

The city began the sweeping program in October. It's intended to clean the roads and minimize the debris entering the city's storm drains.

Vice Mayor Farid Javandel said the parking restrictions will begin as soon as the signs are installed.

— Alan Lopez

## Residents sought for artwork panel

Albany is looking for residents with a background in art to serve on a panel that will choose public artwork at Ocean View, Terrace and Memorial parks.

Residents will serve on one or more panels that will select a tile mural design for the outside of a restroom building at Terrace Park; a sculpture design for the entry to Ocean View Park; and an art installation at Memorial Park.

The panels are expected to meet no more than three times this fall and spring, with a time commitment of fewer than 20 hours.

To apply, go online at [www.albany.org/gov/parkart.html](http://www.albany.org/gov/parkart.html) or call Nan Wishner at 510-524-5185.

— Alan Lopez

## El Cerrito

## Fingerprints lead to robbery suspects

Police arrested two teens on suspicion of robbing a 7-Eleven store last Friday morning after identifying them from surveillance video and fingerprints left at the scene.

Two robbers brought merchandise to the counter at the store on the 7000 block of Stockton Avenue about midnight, El Cerrito police Cpl. Don Horgan said. One then pulled a handgun on the clerk. The other looted the register and grabbed some cartons of cigarettes.

Based on physical evidence found on the scene, police were able to identify one of the suspects and went to his home on the 6200 block of Highland Avenue in Richmond.

Horgan spotted the suspects, both 16, standing in front of the house when he pulled up, and arrested them. Police recovered some of the stolen merchandise at the property, Horgan said.

Police did not identify the suspects because they are minors. They were booked into Juvenile Hall in Martinez.

— Karl Fischer

## El Cerrito continues Earth Day tradition

The El Cerrito community will renew a long-standing Earth Day tradition on Saturday when dozens of volunteers clean up parks, schools and other public areas around the city.

Work will also include the planting of 20 Shumardi oak trees along both sides of San Pablo Avenue, from Moeser Lane to Stockton Avenue. Trees will also be planted on a stretch of Stockton Avenue.

Work parties will get under way at 9 a.m., and volunteers can still sign up by calling Alexis Petru at 510-215-4353 or by filling out the registration form that can be found at the city's Web site, [www.elcerrito.org](http://www.elcerrito.org).

Work parties will be followed by a free barbecue lunch at 12 p.m. at the community center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Vegetarian alternatives will be available.

— Chris Treadway

## Lucky fox escapes its cardboard prison

■ Wildlife center helps animal, freed from a roll of duct tape, heal

By Denis Cuff

STAFF WRITER

A gray fox in El Cerrito has wiggled into a new place in the annals of animals snared by human junk.

The wild fox nearly died after wedging its head and one leg through a cardboard roll of duct tape.

Wildlife rescuers estimate the adult male spent two weeks with its neck and leg stuck in the roll. Starving and bleeding, the fox finally sought refuge in the garage of a family who called wildlife experts to rescue the animal.

"It's a bizarre story," said Sherrill Cook, a spokeswoman for the Lindsay Wildlife Museum in Walnut Creek. "We've seen a lot of animals with their heads



SHERRY LAVARS/STAFF

A GRAY FOX takes a peek around before being released in the foothills of El Cerrito last week. The wounded and extremely thin fox was found in an El Cerrito garage with a roll of duct tape around its neck and front leg in February.

stuck in things, but we've never seen this."

A wildlife biologist rescued

the fox Feb. 13 from the El Cerrito garage and brought it to Lindsay to be operated on and

nursed back to health.

Last week, Lindsay released the healthy fox into the wild in El Cerrito.

Most of the 6,000 seen at Lindsay each year orphaned or injured directly because of human activities, including throwing the trash.

Animals get heads stuck in jars. Birds get stuck in plantings, fishing line or plastic pack holders.

Lindsay advises people to pose of trash and poisonous animals cannot get them.

This fox likely wedged its leg caught in a struggle to escape. Further, the fox left the animal with cuts.

"It's pretty amazing it lived," Cook said.

Contact Denis Cuff at 925-8267 or [dcuff@cctimes.com](mailto:dcuff@cctimes.com).

## ALBANY POLICE REPORTS

## Monday, April 17

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night, someone broke into a red 1993 Honda Civic parked on the 1000 block of Kains Avenue.

■ **PAROLE VIOLATIONS** — At about 7:30 p.m., officers arrested a 24-year-old El Cerrito man near San Pablo Avenue and Clay Street for an outstanding warrant for possession of forged checks and parole violations.

## Tuesday, April 18

■ **WALLET STOLEN** — An El Cerrito woman reported that someone had stolen her wallet from her purse while it was hanging on the back of a chair at a restaurant on the 1400 block of Solano Avenue. A check found that the thief began using her credit card within 20 minutes of the theft.

■ **TOYOTA RECOVERED** — At about 4:30 p.m., officers investigated an unoccupied gray Toyota pickup on Buchanan Street near the westbound Interstate 80 on-ramp. It was found to have been stolen.

■ **LICENSE PLATE STOLEN** — During the day, someone stole the license plate off a gray 1990 Toyota Camry that was parked on the 900 block of Ordway Street.

## Wednesday, April 19

■ **STOLEN FORD FOUND IN OAKLAND** — During the night someone stole a gray 2003 Ford F350 parked on the 400 block of Talbot Avenue. At about 2 p.m. on April 21, the owner of the vehicle called to report locating it parked on 45th Street in Oakland. The owner advised to contact Oakland police to respond and take the report.

■ **FORD E150 STOLEN** — Someone stole a white 1999 Ford E150 parked on the 600 block of Cleveland Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the morning, an Oakland man reported that someone broke into a white 1990 Volkswagen van parked on the 1100 block of Eastshore.

■ **VANDALISM** — Someone vandalized a green 1994 Acura Integra during the night while it was parked on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue.

■ **HONDA STOLEN AND RECOVERED** — A white 1986 Honda Accord was stolen while parked at 555 Pierce St. during the night. It was located in Daly City on April 24. The owner was notified.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — At about 3:30 p.m., a Richmond woman reported that within the previous two hours someone broke into her black 1990 Ford Probe that was parked at 545 Pierce St.

■ **HOME BREAK-IN** — Someone broke into a home on the 700 block of Pomona Avenue by jimmying the back door lock and stole items from inside. There were no witnesses.

■ **WOMAN SHOT WITH BB GUN** — At about 8 p.m., an Albany woman reported that while walking with her sister and two babies she was shot in the leg with a BB. She was not seriously injured and did not know where the shot came from.

## Thursday, April 20

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night someone broke into an orange 2004 Chevrolet van parked on the 900 block of Curtis Street.

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANT** — Officers stopped a yellow 1991 Honda near Brighton and Evelyn avenues for

a vehicle code violation. They arrested the driver, an 18-year-old Berkeley man, for an outstanding Berkeley warrant for drug possession in the amount of \$10,000.

■ **VANDALISM** — Someone tagged a white 1995 Ford Aerostar parked on the 500 block of Talbot Avenue using a red marker.

■ **TOYOTA MISPLACED** — Between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., a resident on the 1000 block of Tevin Avenue reported that someone stole her blue 1995 Toyota Corolla. She called back the next day to report finding it in the North Berkeley BART parking lot, where she had forgotten that she had left it.

## Friday, April 21

■ **DUI** — At about 2 a.m., officers arrested a 33-year-old Albany man driving a black Honda on the 500 block of Adams Street for DUI.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night, someone broke into a white Ford F250 parked in the 400 block of Evelyn Avenue.

■ **DODGE RECOVERED** — Officers located a white 1997 Dodge pickup near Talbot and Brighton avenues that had been reported as stolen from Oakland. They did not have anyone in custody, and the owner was notified.

■ **CROWN VICTORIA STOLEN** — During the night someone stole a white 1998 Ford Crown Victoria parked on the 400 block of Stannage Avenue.

## Saturday, April 22

■ **HONDA STOLEN** — Between 6:30 p.m. and 10 p.m., someone stole a black 1992 Honda Civic parked on

the 700 block of Calhoun Street. There were no witnesses.

■ **DOUBLE AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night a white 2002 Mercedes and a black 2006 Mercedes, both parked on the 900 block of Stannage Avenue, were broken into.

## Sunday, April 23

■ **TOYOTA STOLEN** — During the night someone stole a gray 1992 Toyota Camry parked on the 800 block of Stannage Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **SATURN STOLEN** — During the night someone stole a maroon Saturn parked at 555 Pierce St. A check found that it had been abandoned in Richmond because it was missing.

## Monday, April 24

■ **NO HEADLAMP** — At about 11 a.m., officers arrested a 56-year-old transient man near Masonic Avenue and Darlington Street because he was riding a bicycle without a headlamp. He was additionally charged with resisting arrest.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — During the night someone broke into a 2001 Honda Van parked on the 400 block of Polk Street.

## Weekly summary

Officers responded to 171 calls and stopped 91 vehicles or persons, issuing 28 citations and 87 warnings. Firefighters/paramedics responded to one fire call and five medical emergencies.

— Kristin

## EL CERRITO POLICE REPORTS

## Monday, April 17

■ **VEHICLE RANSACKED** — A vehicle was ransacked on the 2000 block of Harper Street sometime between 7 p.m. on April 17 and 6 a.m. the next day.

■ **VEHICLE RANSACKED** — A vehicle was ransacked on the 2000 block of Tapscott Avenue sometime between 10 p.m. on April 17 and 6 a.m. the next day.

■ **VEHICLE BURGLARY** — A pair of binoculars was taken from the 6600 block of Gatto Avenue sometime between 6:30 p.m. on April 17 and 12:30 p.m. the next day.

■ **ACCORD TAKEN** — A 1990 Honda Accord was taken from the 700 block of Liberty Street sometime between 10:30 p.m. on April 17 and 8:15 a.m. the next day. The vehicle

was later located on the 700 block of Norvell Street.

■ **ACCORD STOLEN** — A 1991 Honda Accord was taken from the 700 block of Everett Street sometime between 9:30 p.m. on April 17 and 9:25 a.m. the next day.

## Wednesday, April 19

■ **COMPUTER STOLEN** — A laptop computer was taken from a vehicle on the 600 block of Kearney Street sometime between 2:45 p.m. and 3:15 p.m.

## Friday, April 21

■ **CIVIC RECOVERED** — A stolen 1993 Honda Civic was recovered on the 400 block of Norvell Street. The vehicle had been reported stolen to

Richmond police on April 17.

## Saturday, April 22

■ **FORD RECOVERED** — Police recovered a stolen 1998 Ford Crown Victoria on the 2600 block of La Honda Avenue. The vehicle had been reported stolen to Albany police the previous day.

## Sunday, April 23

■ **CIVIC TAKEN** — A 1994 Honda

Civic was taken from El Cerrito sometime between 2:30 and 3:30 p.m.

## Monday, April 24

■ **BURGLARY ATTEMPT** — A young man attempted to break into a 2000 Toyota MR2 at 12:40 a.m. on the 6000 block of Willow Street. The men were scared off by the neighbor.

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Craig Lazzaretto, Hills editor

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**EDITORIAL**

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# Neighbors

## Students make huge donation to the poor

**M**OST KIDS want to buy an iPod or a GameBoy, but the children in the Sunday school at Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley have a different goal: They want a water buffalo.

Pastor Ron Sebring was a bit taken aback.

"Why a water buffalo?" he asked. "Why not something less expensive, like a chicken or a pig?"

But no. The kids briefly considered a llama or goat; but when they took a vote, water buffalo won in a landslide.

The animal — which the children have named Wilhelmina — will be donated to a family in an underdeveloped country through a program called Heifer International, which has been operating for 55 years in more than 125 countries.

"Water buffaloes are really good for pulling heavy things," explained Sam Shain, 9, of Orinda.

"And you can drink their milk," added April Ernst, 7, of Albany.

"And you can make bricks out of their dung," said Sarah Smith, 10, of Alameda.

When Wilhelmina arrives at her new home, she'll come with a bonus: She'll be pregnant.

After she has her baby, it'll be given to another family in the village," said Emily Sugarman, 6, of Richmond. "That way nobody will be jealous."

Water buffaloes don't come cheap. At \$250, they're the most expensive item in the Heifer International catalog.

That's a lot of money for small children to raise, but they did it.

They made cards that read, "Help the Heifer Project," and gave them to their friends at school. They raised money from their parents by doing chores at home. They sold small Heifer Project pins.

Sam's little brother, 6-year-old Will, raided the refrigerator and found a box of strawberries, which he sold at school the next day for 25 cents a berry.

On Easter they counted up the nickels, dimes and quarters and lo! They'd raised the whole \$250 and more — enough to buy a flock of chickens, too.

The kids are thrilled. Before embarking on this project, they watched a video that showed them what a difference a single animal can make in a poor family's life.

"Now the kids will be able



MARTIN SNAPP  
Snapp Shots

to go to school and make friends," said Sarah.

Emma had a more bottom-line take.

"Now they don't have to die," she said.

Curiously, the kids don't know who Wilhelmina will be going to, and they never will. They don't even know which country.

They won't get any photos of "their" family, or any grateful thank-you notes.

"The idea is to make it personal without making it prideful," Sebring explained. "We want to educate their hands and their hearts, as well as their heads — and let them educate us likewise."

It reminds me of the way charity was conducted in ancient Israel. The donor would enter an empty room and lay the donation on the table. Then he'd exit, and the recipient would come in and take it.

Great care was taken so that neither would know the other's identity — to protect the recipient from embarrassment and the donor from the temptation of pride.

Speaking of cool kids, remember those teenagers who call themselves Future Builders, who produced a rock concert to raise money to build primary schools in Africa? It was a huge success. They netted \$628 after expenses. Way to go, kids!

Finally, my thanks to the many thoughtful, compassionate readers who called and e-mailed after last week's column. Several asked whether my sister is really named Ginger Snapp.

Yes, she is. Cutesy names were all the rage back in the mid-to-late '40s, when we were born. I also knew a Pepper Salter, Sandy Shore, Cherry Pies, Teddy Baer, Rick Shaw and the Lear sisters — Chanda and Lava.

And their father always used to say that if he'd had a son, he'd have named him King.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2768 or e-mail [msnapp@cctimes.com](mailto:msnapp@cctimes.com).

## FACES & PLACES

## Memorial Park has art, music Sunday

Award-winning Albany pianist Juliann Ma will perform as part of the second Albany Arts and Music Festival. The event will be held Sunday at Memorial Park.

Performers include: the Albany High School jazz band at 2 p.m.; the East Bay Theater Improv at 2:30 p.m.; Albany High School's Rhythm Bound at 3 p.m.; a poetry slam at 3:30 p.m.; the Albany High School choral group Vivaci at 4 p.m.; African and belly dancers at 4:30 p.m.; and Ma at 5 p.m.

Art will be on display from noon to 6 p.m.

The Albany Community Foundation and the city's arts committee are sponsors. For more information, call Mayor Allan Maris at 510-526-7032.

— Alan Lopez

**FINE ARTS EXHIBIT:** The El Cerrito Art Association will showcase more than 300 works at its 30th annual Fine Arts Exhibit this weekend at the Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane in El Cerrito. Saturday's hours will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., when the exhibit coincides with the city's annual barbecue at the center for Earth Day volunteers.

Attendees will be able to vote for their favorite art exhibit entry and see local artists demonstrate techniques. The free event will continue Sunday, when the hours will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visitors are welcome at a reception and awards ceremony with the artists Friday evening from 7:30 to 9:30.

— Chris Treadway

**THEATER HONORED:** The Art Deco Society of Northern California will honor the preservation of the Cerrito Theater on Saturday.

The society will give a preservation award to Jerri Holan and Arnie Lerner, the architects who designed the interior of the renovated theater. The renovations are scheduled to be completed in August.

Alice Jurow, the editor of The Sophisticate, the society's magazine, said the Friends of the Cerrito Theater were instrumental in moving the project forward. The El Cerrito Redevelopment Agency is funding the \$5.3 million effort.

"It's definitely a theater in the art deco style," Jurow said. "And this group has been dedicated in having a vision, getting funding together and making it happen."

The Art Deco Preservation Ball will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Historic Sweet's Ballroom, 1933 Broadway in Oakland. The event will also honor six other art deco-building preservation efforts throughout the state.

Advance tickets are \$70 for members of the society, \$85 for non-members. Tickets can also be purchased at the door for \$100. White tie-black tie attire of the 1920s-40s is encouraged.

For more information, call 415-982-DECO (415-982-3326).

— Alan Lopez

**CHAMBER SCHOLARSHIP AWARD:** High school seniors Mariel Honigman and Marquis Evans have won the first El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce college scholarship award.



SHERY LAVARS/STAFF

**VOLUNTEERS OF ALL AGES**, including (foreground from left) Kristina Randrup, 7, Rene Kvidahl and Alex Ariola, 7, all of Berkeley, lend a hand during an Earth Day clean-up and restoration at Eastshore State Park along the Berkeley shoreline on Saturday. More than 150 PG&E employees joined other volunteers in the effort.

The two El Cerrito High School students will split a \$2,500 scholarship raised from last year's Taste of El Cerrito event.

This year's Taste will be held from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sunday, May 7 at the city community center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Admission is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. A \$5 discount will be given to people who buy tickets before May 5.

They can be purchased at the chamber office, 10848 San Pablo Ave., or by calling 510-233-7040.

The event will include samples from local restaurants, wine tasting and a silent auction.

In a press release, chamber president Tracy Giles said she hopes to offer scholarships to more students from this year's event. Go online at [www.tasteofelcerrito.com](http://www.tasteofelcerrito.com) for more information.

— Alan Lopez

**BUSINESS OF THE YEAR:** The El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce has named Lisa Cain, the co-founder of Web design firm Pagepoint, its small business owner of the year.

Cain recently moved her business into an office at El Cerrito Plaza after starting Pagepoint in her Kensington garage with husband Aaron Goble more than four years ago.

As the chamber's president last year, Cain helped found the Taste of El Cerrito event and coordinated the refurbishing of the chamber office.

She holds a doctorate in marketing from Wharton, and teaches marketing courses at UC Berkeley and Mills College.

On May 4 Cain and other local small business owners will be honored at the Contra Costa Council's sixth annual small business recognition awards in Concord.

More information about Cain and Pagepoint can be found online at [www.pagepoint.com](http://www.pagepoint.com).

— Alan Lopez

**DISASTER CLASS:** A neighborhood disaster-preparedness event is scheduled for Saturday, May 6, at 780 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito, hosted by Christ Lutheran Church. There will be exhibits, displays, demonstrations, CERT trainers from the El Cerrito Fire Department, retrofitting advice, entertainment, music, activities for children and a free barbecue lunch.

For more details, call 510-524-1050.

— Craig Lazzarotti

**BANK APPOINTMENT:** Vera Boyovich of Albany has been appointed assistant vice president



BERKELEY SAXOPHONE QUARTET

**THE BERKELEY SAXOPHONE QUARTET** will perform in a concert/fund-raiser for the Albany High School Baseball Boosters on Sunday at 4 p.m. at the "The Church On The Corner," 1319 Solano Ave. in Albany. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 students and seniors, and are available at the door. For more information, call 510-526-4894.

and manager of The Mechanics Bank's Point Richmond office.

Before joining The Mechanics Bank, Boyovich was the Fairfield office manager for U.S. Bank. Previously, she spent 11 years with California Federal Bank as a vice president. A graduate of Albany High School and the University of Oregon, she began her banking career in 1978, and is a past president of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce.

— Craig Lazzarotti

**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:** A scholarship program has been created in honor of Ed Hill, an Albany High School art teacher and coach for more than 30 years who died last year. Funded by memorial donations from family, friends and colleagues, the scholarship program will provide opportunities for AHS students to participate in workshops, classes and other activities outside of AHS classes that will enhance art skills and expand the breadth and depth of their art experience.

Applications for scholarships are available from Sarah Samonsky, chair of the AHS Art Department, and from AHS counselors. The deadline for application is May 15.

Donations to the Ed Hill

Memorial Scholarship Fund can be sent to the Albany Education Foundation, 1320 Solano Ave., Suite 203, Albany, CA 94706. Checks should be made to AEF with a notation about the Ed Hill Memorial. For more information, contact Sally Outis at 510-558-6823.

— Craig Lazzarotti

Have an item about a scholarship, an award, an event or another experience that you'd like to share with other Journal readers? If you have a photo — print or digital — we can use those, too. (Sorry, we cannot return print photos.) Send items for Faces & Places to the editor by e-mail: [journal@cctimes.com](mailto:journal@cctimes.com), or mailing to: The Journal, 4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA 94806.

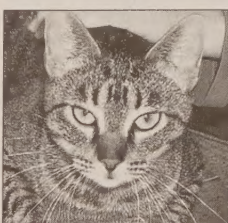
## LET OF THE WEEK

**BERKELEY** — The following animals may be available for adoption at the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society.

Dogs: 1-year-old female brown and black shepherd/spitz mix; 1-year-old female golden retriever; 1-year-old male pit bull terrier; 1-month-old male white and brown Labrador/hound mix; 1-year-old male black and brown dachshund/husky mix; 1-year-old male yellow Airedale/Labrador mix; 3-year-old female tricolor Australian shepherd mix; 9-year-old male black and tan Bernese mountain dog mix; 5-year-old female black and tan German shepherd/Rottweiler mix.

Cats: 1-year-old female calico domestic medium hair; 4-year-old male orange tabby domestic long hair (DSH); 1½-year-old female gray Maine coon mix; 3-year-old male black and white DSH; 4-year-old male black domestic long hair (DLH); 2-year-old female orange and white DSH; 3-year-old female tortoiseshell DSH; more cats and kittens of various ages, sizes and colors.

Adoption fee: dogs \$125; cats \$100 — including spaying, neutering and age-appropriate vaccines. There is an overnight hold period. The Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society is located at 2700 Ninth St., Berkeley. Its hours are 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Information: [www.berkeleyhumane.org](http://www.berkeleyhumane.org) or call 510-845-7735.



BERKELEY-EAST BAY HUMANE SOCIETY

**PAM** is a 1½-year-old female Siamese/tabby domestic short hair mix, and may be available for adoption from the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society. She's the star pupil of her cat training class. Pam would prefer to be your only pet. For more information about Pam or other animals available for adoption, call or visit the Humane Society.



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EDITOR • CRAIG LAZZERETTI

ALBANY

EL CERRITO

KENSINGTON

## THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

## EDITORIAL

## Business climate, vision on the rise in El Cerrito

MUSIC STORE MOD LANGE, a longtime fixture on Berkeley's University Avenue, recently moved to nearby El Cerrito. Ifshin Violins, which bills itself as the largest violin store in the Western University, plans to bolt University sometime this spring for its new digs on Fairmount Avenue in El Cerrito.

You might wonder why two stores within a stone's throw of the Bay Area's elite public university — and all the potential consumers therein — would call in the moving vans for a sleepy town like El Cerrito. An obvious answer is more parking, the lack of which in Berkeley is a constant thorn in the side of business owners. But in a broader sense, there are two words that explain why a local enterprise would choose El Cerrito over Berkeley — business climate.

The city of El Cerrito is pulling out all the stops to entice new businesses. Firms laud the city for listening to their needs and doing what it takes to create a welcoming environment. You rarely hear the same praise directed toward nearby Berkeley. You're more likely to hear grumblings about lack of parking, burdensome regulations and an excessive level of discretionary review in the granting of business permits.

To be sure, some good things are happening in Berkeley from a business standpoint. The city's arts and entertainment district is flourishing, and there is much promise in the downtown plan Berkeley is crafting with the university, though it remains to be seen how friendly that plan will be to business development. Some city officials understand the need for a thriving local economy to ensure Berkeley's fiscal health.

But complaints still abound. Local auto dealerships, and the precious revenue they pump into the city's coffers, are leaving or are at least thinking about it. Sales tax revenues are declining, particularly on Telegraph Avenue, where Cody's Books owner Andy Ross laments that the city lacks a vision for the area.

There is no lack of vision in El Cerrito, where the revitalization of El Cerrito Plaza and imminent rebirth of the Cerrito Theater promises to create a bustling — albeit small — downtown for years to come. It's little wonder that many residents of the Berkeley hills prefer to drive into El Cerrito to do their shopping than navigate the traffic and parking woes in their own city.

Of course, comparing El Cerrito and Berkeley is like comparing apples and oranges. These are two vastly different cities with different demographics, concerns and priorities. Granted, it's much easier for a city with a population about one-fourth the size of Berkeley to zero in on business-outreach and redevelopment programs.

But that doesn't mean Berkeley should be excused from at least attempting to create a more hospitable environment for business growth. We're not saying the city should sacrifice principles designed to protect the interests and concerns of various groups that live in Berkeley. But it should also be sensitive to the interests and concerns of the business community, and do what can reasonably be done to address them.

If it doesn't, it will continue to lose auto dealerships to Emeryville and music stores to El Cerrito — developments that will not bode well for its fiscal health. For its part, El Cerrito is moving forward with an economic development plan to attract new businesses to the city and retain them. When it's completed, the city of Berkeley should ask to see a copy.

## YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

## Assembly

**Loni Hancock:** (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-559-1406, Fax: 510-559-1478

## AC Transit

**Joe Wallace:** Ward 1 (West Contra Costa and Northern Alameda counties). E-mail: jwallace@actransit.org; phone 510-891-7143; fax 510-234-7689.

## Stege Sanitary District

Phone 510-524-4668 or see online at [www.stegesd.dst.ca.us](http://www.stegesd.dst.ca.us).

## County Supervisors

**John Giola:** (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530,

510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-3429. E-mail: [dist1@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us](mailto:dist1@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us).

**Keith Carson:** (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-272-6695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: [kcarrson@co.alameda.ca.us](mailto:kcarrson@co.alameda.ca.us).

## Cities

**El Cerrito:** City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, 510-215-4300. E-mail: [citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us)

**Albany:** City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 510-528-5710.

**Kensington:** Fire Protection District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-527-8395

Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-526-4141

## School boards

**West Contra Costa Unified School District:** 510-620-2246

**Albany Unified School District:** 510-558-3766

## NUMBERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

## City government

**ALBANY**  
City Hall, 1000 San Pablo Ave. 510-528-5710

Mayor Allan Maris  
**City Council** — Meets at 8 p.m. the first and third Mondays at the City Hall Council Chamber.

**Community Development** — Includes planning, building and maintenance. 510-528-5780

Web site: [www.albanyca.org](http://www.albanyca.org)

**EL CERRITO**  
City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Ave. 510-215-4300.

Mayor Janet Abelson  
**City Council** — Meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Mondays in the Garden Room of the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane. 510-215-4305.

**Public Works** — Report problems with city trees and sidewalks, burned-out street lights, potholes and clogged storm drains. 510-215-4382.

**Recycling Center** — 7501 Schmidt Lane. 510-215-4350.

Web site: [www.el-cerrito.org](http://www.el-cerrito.org)

## KENSINGTON

**Municipal Advisory Council** — Meets at 7:30 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month in the Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. Addresses zoning and land-use issues. 510-526-5546.

**Police Protection and Community Services District** — Meets at 7:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month, except August, at the Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave. Addresses Police Department, Parks and Recreation and solid waste issues. 510-526-4141.

JEFF HANSEN • HILLS NEWSPAPERS

## ARE YOU READY FOR THE BIG SHAKER



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Support Albany shoreline initiative

I'm an Albany resident who wants to make sure the use of the shoreline is decided by people who live and work here.

After listening carefully to the different sides, I've joined with a vibrant group of Albany residents who are continuing to get signatures for the Albany shoreline protection initiative.

The recent request by City Attorney Robert Zweben for opposing sides to cease their efforts is based on a very big "if." Presently, the city has no proposal on the table, nor do the developers. The one Zweben proposes to offer would attempt a compromise between those wanting to protect the shoreline and keep the planning process in Albany, and the developers, whose first proposal gave 2 1/2 acres out of 102 to open space, and had an enormous parking lot and chain stores.

If the city comes forward with a truly independent plan, there'd be no reason to oppose it. But, as I understand, this initiative came about because the city didn't have an alternative to the mall plan.

The initiative's a thoughtful long-range plan allowing for community participation, with room to discuss the best protection for the shoreline. It also would open up discussion about what kind of development would be best for Albany.

The goal is to provide development complementing (not detracting from, as a mall would) the small businesses on Solano and San Pablo avenues.

It's really important we not buy into the developers' fear tactics that Albany-generated ideas are silly, not practical, or would lead to financial ruin. The best, most informed ideas will always come from within our city and be the result of our own hard work.

This issue is worthy of our time and effort. What looks like "opposition" and a "power grab" by those "environmentalists" is really a sign of Albany residents participating in the time-consuming and rewarding process of democratic participation.

If you're an Albany voter concerned about the long-term health and quality of our city, I strongly encourage you to support this initiative.

Lucy Morris  
Albany

## Alarming initiative

One of the most alarming features of an initiative proposed by Robert Cheasty, in the name of the Sierra Club and Citizens for the Albany Shoreline (CAS), is that it would require Albany's shoreline be determined by a very biased (many would say, stacked) "task force."

Their initiative calls for a nine-member task force, four members of which must be people from groups having a pre-conceived plan and set vision for a private piece of property, plus five appointed members by City Council members. Since one council member is on record as supporting the CAS initiative, that means a majority of the task force already has a pre-determined outcome.

What a waste of time and money and what an insult to the integrity and independence of Albany voters.

Albany residents already have a good planning process in place: a process that permits a property owner to submit a plan and requires city leaders to listen to the public views, gather information on environmental and financial impacts, and provide a mechanism for Albany residents to evaluate the data and discuss how they

want to proceed.

The existing process provides for the information to be gathered and presented impartially and publicly, and encourages open and fair-minded debate. The existing process would not dictate the future of the waterfront but rather encourages and supports community input and progressive ideas from all residents.

The waterfront belongs to all of us in Albany. Any group trying to force Albany residents to accept their version of the future, or impede a fair and open planning process, is not working in the best interests of those of us who love, live in, and participate in the care and future well-being of this city.

Elizabeth Baker  
Albany

## Quibbling over details

The pro-mall letters in the April 14 Journal are so caught up in quibbling over administrative details that they are missing the point of the debate.

Albany is a great small town, a remnant of old-time America, with a vibrant main street — Solano Avenue. Albany has one mile of shoreline on the most beautiful bay in the world, looking out on one of the most recognizable landmarks in the world.

None of those things — small towns, vibrant main streets, or San Francisco Bay shorelines with views of the Golden Gate Bridge — are getting any easier to find.

The question here is whether we want to sell all those things to a Canadian gambling conglomerate and a Los Angeles real estate developer in return for another El Cerrito Plaza.

Personally, when my grandkids come to me 40 years from now and ask me about my legacy, I don't want to point to a crumbling mall-cum-casino and a dead town.

Kevin M. Goess  
Albany

## Think 'long-term' consequences

One of the vital services we should expect our city government to provide is an open, comprehensive process to plan for our city's future. This is especially important for preserving our unique natural resource, the Albany shoreline.

Those who claim such a process is too expensive should consider the long-term consequences, financial and otherwise, of leaving planning to others, who would put their own interests above those of the citizens.

Unfortunately, the city has declined to engage in a comprehensive process for the development of our waterfront that

is not developer-driven. For this reason, a group of Albany residents has been gathering signatures to put an initiative on the ballot that defines a process that must occur before any development can take place on the waterfront.

Contrary to misleading claims by opponents of the initiative, it contains provisions ensuring the process is an open one and that no plan may go forward without a vote of the citizens.

This is anything but a "power grab." It is a reasonable step to ensure that any development on our waterfront is in the best interests of the Albany residents, not of developers.

Mark Mason  
Albany

## Infuriating idea

I am absolutely furious the Albany City Council wants to close the Albany access streets to the El Cerrito Plaza.

Who do they think use those streets to get to the plaza? El Cerrito residents? Martians? I and my neighbors use those streets to go to the plaza. We are property taxpayers, voter-registered Albany homeowners who live on those very streets.

I don't care how big that apartment complex will be; closing those streets is no favor to the people who live on them.

The council members need to find out other way to pursue their childish open-urbanism with the El Cerrito City Council.

Margaret Simpson  
Albany

## Difference between want and need

Waterfront issues in Albany are really not so simple as to be able to explain them away in a few sentences; say the problem is solved and conclude that it is perfect that Golden Gates Fields, et al., want a mall there.

There is a huge difference between want and need. I know there are Albany residents who really want a mall on the waterfront and there are others, of which I am one, who do not believe this is a need.

For example, do we need one more mall in this area? No, there is an oversupply of retail. Do we need 15,000 to 30,000 more cars trying to access the freeway? No, there is inadequate access now, and Alameda County already is one of the worst counties with asthma problems, due primarily to car exhaust fumes.

Do we need to use a prime, waterfront piece of property as "tax base?" No, the resultant burden on Albany's infrastructure and losses to Solano Avenue businesses are likely to more than equal what is being proposed as increased revenues to the city.

Albany residents who are out in the community gathering signatures for the Albany waterfront protection initiative agree we do not want or need another mall.

This is poor urban planning for Albany and inconsistent with a piece of property that is on the Bay, with a beautiful view of the Golden Gate and open space to the north and south of it. What we do need is a comprehensive plan for the waterfront that addresses the future of the entire waterfront, that takes into account resident input, protects open space, and ensures a thoughtful process for what should happen there.

Marjorie Atkinson  
Albany

Atkinson is co-chairperson of Citizens for the Albany Shoreline.



# 'Secret Garden' tour celebrates 20th season

By Julie Cadigan  
STAFF WRITER

Landscape lovers are wiggling into their wellies and donning their straw hats in preparation for the granddaddy of garden tours, set for Sunday.

Secret Garden Tours of the East Bay is now in its 20th year. The tour benefits scholarships and academic programs at the independent Park Day School in Oakland.

The event consists of a self-guided tour of 10 gardens, including those at a Piedmont Victorian to a Richmond glassworks; a series of lunchtime garden lectures; and a marketplace at the school's North Oakland campus, open to the public until 4 p.m.

The tour provides an opportunity to view private gardens by seasoned landscape professionals such as Feyerabend & Madden, Gary Lazar and David Feix. Some gardens are a reflection of the homeowners' own artistry. Several gardens are a mixture of professional skills in private spaces as garden designers share their own sanctuaries.

The ambitious undertaking requires a small army of volunteers to deliver the polished experience the Secret Gardens tour is known for.

"We're fond of saying that it takes a village — our Park Day School village — to get this popular Garden Tour off the ground and make it so successful year after year," said Carolyn Rashby, a member of the team coordinating volunteer docents. "We're a small school of 220 kids, and every year we're amazed at how many of our families are needed to plan and run the tour."

Some of the designers, such as Feyerabend, will be on hand to answer their tour sites to answer questions. The Piedmont garden designed by Feyerabend and Madden is their second for this homeowner, their fifth or sixth included in the Secret Gardens tour.

"Victorian Manner," Garden No. 10 on the tour, graces what is reputed to be the second-oldest home in Piedmont, said Feyerabend. "It's primarily a shrub garden, and the interest is provided by foliage color and textures."

The homeowners are art aficionados, and their garden shows surprises lurk around every corner like the nicknamed "Clown Alley" which provides a touch of whimsy and a quiet seat.

The tour provides income for the school and is good business for designers as well. With such a growing audience, landscapers and homeowners alike contact the school about inclusion in the tour, and decisions of which to include

## IF YOU GO

**WHAT:** Secret Gardens of the East Bay tour, garden lectures and marketplace

**WHERE:** Park Day School is at 370-43rd St. in Oakland. Tour gardens are in Oakland, Piedmont, Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito and Richmond.

**WHEN:** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday

**TIME:** 9-5, rain or shine

**DETAILS:** \$45, available online or at the school on Sunday. Box lunches can be ordered for the tour at a cost of \$13 when tickets



GARY LAZAR

**GARDEN #9, "Scents & Sensibility,"** is designed by Gary Lazar and perfumer Laurie Stern. Incredible views of the Bay from this El Cerrito garden. Stern uses the garden to make her perfumes; she will distill perfume on the day of the tour in her garden.

are made by a panel of Park Day School parents.

"We select for quality of design, diversity, flow of traffic through the garden and even traffic consideration," said Cathy Shields, the tour coordinator.

Shields began as a volunteer at Park Day about 20 years ago. "We are very fortunate at Park Day to have such a wonderful and supportive community. Every aspect of the tour is done by volunteers from the photography, the graphic design, the food..."

Box lunches are available for an additional fee, and there is also food available at the school during the garden lectures, which are set for 11, noon, and 1 p.m.

Tom Bressan, technical editor for Sunset Magazine and owner of The Urban Farmer in Richmond, will demystify drip systems.

Landscape contractor M. Jordan Gudebski, demonstrates the fundamentals of low voltage, energy efficient landscape lighting.

Soil expert Giacomo Damonte from American Soil Products will provide the scoop on growing mediums.

The lively marketplace shop for unique plants, ornamentals, organic vegetable starts, garden art, water sculpture, home accessories, baked goods, books, stationery and much more.

This year's tour is dedicated to Suzanne Porter, a respected and beloved garden designer whose personal garden was featured a few times on the tour, as were some of the gardens that she designed for others.

"She was very generous to Park Day and over the years we developed a friendship with her," said Shields.

The tour will run, rain or shine.

Reach Julie Cadigan at [jcadigan@ccetimes.com](mailto:jcadigan@ccetimes.com) or at 925-943-8209.

# Midsummer Mozart stars play mutts, meows benefit

By Martin Snapp  
STAFF WRITER

The Berkeley City Club will echo with the sublime sounds of Mozart on May 6 at the second annual "Mozart for Mutts and Meows" concert, a benefit for the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society.

The performers are stars of the annual Midsummer Mozart Festival — oboist Laura Griffiths, flutist Maria Tamburrino, violinist Robin Hanson, violist Elizabeth Prior Runicles and cellist Dawn Foster-Dodson.

Maestro George Cleve, founder and artistic director of the Midsummer Mozart Festival, will be the master of ceremonies.

The program includes Mozart's Oboe Quartet in D Major, Flute Quartet in D Major, and two Duos in G Major.

Mozart for Mutts and Meows had its genesis two years ago, when Cleve and Tamburrino, who are husband and wife, lost their beloved cat Hobbes to cancer.

They were heartbroken for months. Then they adopted a



LORI A. CHEUNG, THE PET PHOTOGRAPHER.COM

**THE BERKELEY-EAST BAY HUMANE SOCIETY** will hold its second annual "Mozart for Mutts and Meows" concert on May 6. Pictured, from left, are Alan Shiro, BEBHS board president; his wife Lorna Shiro; Maria Tamburrino, principal flutist for the San Jose Symphony; and Maestro George Cleve, conductor.

cream-colored, long-haired, Siamese mix named Winston from the humane society.

Two months later, they adopted a second cat, an orange tabby named Alfie.

Together, Winston and Alfie

eased the ache in their hearts.

"We were so grateful, we were wondering what we could do to say thank you," said Tamburrino. "Then it hit us — why not give a benefit concert?"

Tickets to the concert cost

## IF YOU GO:

**■ WHAT:** Music for Mutts and Meows, a benefit for the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society featuring performers from the Midsummer Mozart Festival.

**■ WHEN:** May 6 from 7 to 10 p.m.

**■ WHERE:** Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave.

**■ COST:** \$75

**■ INFO & RESERVATIONS:** [www.berkeleyhumane.org](http://www.berkeleyhumane.org) or 510-845-7739.

\$75. All proceeds will help pay for medical care for the hundreds of animals the humane society rescues every year from overcrowded shelters.

The event will also feature a silent auction of one-of-a-kind items and experiences, including a VIP tour of Pixar Studios, an original David Lance Goines poster framed by Berkeley Mills, and Sunday brunch at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in San Francisco.

# Turkeys find parks a great place to roost

IT'S NOWHERE near Thanksgiving, but there seem to be turkeys all over the place.

In recent weeks, I have seen and heard the birds in several regional parks, including Briones, Las Trampas, Wildcat Canyon, Del Valle and Sunol. Flocks of them also have been seen at Garin Regional Park and in suburban neighborhoods throughout the East Bay. I even saw one turkey trying to cross Interstate 680 in heavy traffic near Pleasanton. Unfortunately, the poor bird didn't make it.

So what is going on? For one thing, this is the turkey-mating season, during which the birds are going to be more vocal and more visible. But beyond that, the wild turkey population in California has increased substantially during the past five years, according to Doug Bell, the East Bay Regional Park District's wildlife program manager. Besides inhabiting open spaces in 54 of California's 58 counties, the birds have even shown up in more urban venues such as the Berkeley streets.

The park district has no statistics, but Bell said Sunol Wilderness in southern Alameda County is probably the regional park with the highest turkey population.



NED MACKAY  
Park II

Though there is evidence turkeys roamed California in the distant past — 10,000 years ago — they are not currently native to the state. Wild turkeys were first imported to California in the late 1800s, and as recently as 1999, the state Department of Fish and Game released turkeys in California for hunting purposes. They can be hunted under license in the spring and fall, though not in the regional parks. No hunting of any kind is allowed in the East Bay Regional Park District.

Oak woodlands are wild turkeys' preferred habitat. Turkeys are ground nesters, but they can fly up into trees to avoid predators such as coyotes, bobcats and even large raptors. A mountain lion certainly would not turn up its nose at a turkey

dinner, if there didn't happen to be a slow deer around.

The turkeys eat insects and plant material, including acorns, which raises questions about their effect on oak regeneration.

During the mating season, the adult males will strut around, fanning their tail feathers. Sometimes you will see half a dozen immature males around an adult, trying to imitate his behavior. Each tom turkey will try to form a harem of as many as 20 hens. Breeding is in March, eggs are laid in April, and the poult (chicks) hatch in May.

Bell said so far there have been no complaints from the public about turkeys in the parks. The birds don't attack people, but they can become pests at times, especially if they roost in suburban gardens or on roofs of cars. The district has no current plans to try to manage or reduce the turkey population.

If you see turkeys in the regional parks, please don't approach them. Just enjoy watching them from a distance. And please don't try to feed them, ei-

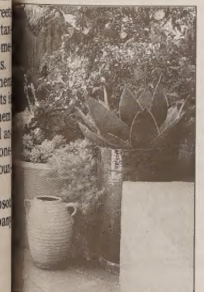
ther. The birds are far better off learning to fend for themselves in the wild on a natural diet.

There aren't any turkeys in residence, but there are lots of domestic fowl at the Little Farm at Tilden Regional Park in Berkeley. For a glimpse into farm life, you can help the staff open the farm and do some morning chores from 9 to 10:30 a.m. on Saturday. Dress to get dirty.

The Little Farm is next to the Environmental Education Center at the north end of Tilden's Central Park Drive. From Grizzly Peak Boulevard in Berkeley, drive down the hill on Canon Drive, turn left, and park at the end of the road.

On Sunday, the naturalists will lead a wildflower walk from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Tilden Nature Area to see what's in bloom. Meet at the center. The walk is free. For more information on center programs, call 510-525-2233.

Ned Mackay writes about East Bay Regional Park District sites and activities. E-mail him at [nedmackay@comcast.net](mailto:nedmackay@comcast.net).



DEBORAH ORAPOLLO

**TEXTURAL OPULENCE** in the Garden #8 is designed by David Feix. This fabulous garden illustrates clean geometry, textural variety and color. The home was designed by owner Mario Trejo, who collaborated with Feix to create a lush oasis.

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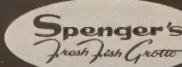
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## LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

## Albany Library

1247 Marin Ave.  
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**Hours:** Mondays, noon to 6 p.m.; Tuesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays, closed; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ The library will present poet Rafaela Del Bourgo on Thursday, May 4, from 7 to 9 p.m. Del Bourgo's poetry has appeared in magazines, journals and anthologies in the United States, Canada and Australia. In 2001, she was a finalist in the Frances Locke Memorial poetry competition and the River Styx poetry contest, and she was nominated for a Pushcart Prize in 2002. In 2003, she won the Lullwater Prize for poetry.

■ Theodore Roszak will discuss his latest book "WORLD BEWARE! American Triumphalism in an Age of Terror" at the library's brown bag speakers forum on Monday, May 8, at 12:30 p.m.

■ The library presents a drop-in poetry-writing workshop, led by Alison Seevak, on Wednesday, May 10 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Seevak is an Albany poet and teacher who has taught writing to children and adults at schools and community arts centers throughout the Bay Area.

■ The annual Friends of the Albany Library book sale will be held Saturday, May 13, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, May 14, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a bag sale (all the books you can fit in a bag for \$5) from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Most items are \$1. The sale will include children's books, recent fiction, paperbacks and tables of non-fiction sorted by categories such as psychology, religion and crafts, as well as books in many languages.

■ The library's teen movie program continues with a series of films by legendary anime director Hayao Miyazaki on the first Wednesday of the month. The following films are planned: May 3: My Neighbor Totoro; June 7: Kiki's Delivery Service; July 5: Spirited Away. This program is aimed at middle and high school students. All films are shown in the Edith Stone Room. They start at 5 p.m. and finish by 7:15 p.m. at the latest. For information, visit the teen area at the Albany Library or contact Teen Services Librarian Julia Witwer at Ext. 20.

■ Free drop-in homework help is available for students in third through fifth grades. The homework center is open Mondays and Thursdays (except county holidays), from 3 to 5:30 p.m. Emphasis is placed on math and writing skills. No registration is required. For more information, call Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17 or e-mail jwinkelstein@acilibrary.org.

■ Weekly singalongs are held Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. with Dale Allen Boland. The sessions are free and for all ages. No registration required. Call Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17.

■ Drop-in knitting groups for all ages are held Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. Work on your own project or make pet blankets and children's hats for victims of recent disasters. Instructions, yarn and needles are provided for library projects. No registration is necessary. For more information, contact Julie Winkelstein at Ext. 17.

## El Cerrito Library

6510 Stockton Ave.  
510-526-7512 or www.cccilb.org  
**Hours:** Mondays and Tuesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays, closed; Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays, 1 to 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ The library is offering free beginning Internet classes on Saturday mornings. All classes start at 10 a.m. and last one hour. Please sign up in advance. The schedule of classes are as follows: April 29: Useful Web sites; May 6: Health and medical information; May 20: Finding newspaper articles; May 27: Travel information; June 3: Finding magazine articles.

■ Children and their families are invited to the library for a series of Monday evening family story times that will continue through Monday, May 8. Each of the meetings, which include songs and fingerplays as

well as stories, will begin at 7 p.m. and last about a half-hour. The themes for the remaining story times will be "Plink Snouts & Curly Tails (Stories About Pigs)" on May 1 and "I Love You, Mom & Dad!" on May 8. For information, call the library.

■ The spring series of Lapsit story times (formerly known as Babytime and Toddlerime) will continue through May 11. These story times, which meet Thursdays at 10:15 and 11 a.m., are for babies and toddlers up to age 3 and their caregivers. Each meeting lasts about 20 minutes, and includes songs, bounces, games and fingerplays in addition to the stories. No registration is required.

■ Children and their families are invited to the library on Saturday, May 13, at 11 a.m. for a special family story time titled "Up, Up and Away! Things That Fly — Stories and Crafts." Come and listen to stories about flying things, then make a mini kite, a flying saucer or a paper plane to fly at Fairmont Park. This program is presented in collaboration with the El Cerrito Department of Recreation.

■ Elaine Addison, author of "Miss Poppy's Guide to Raising Perfectly Happy Children," will be at the library to discuss her book with interested parents on Monday, May 15 at 7 p.m. Ms. Addison (aka Miss Poppy) has been a professional nanny for 18 years, including tenures with celebrities like Caroline Kennedy and Kathleen Turner.

■ The May meeting of Readers Anonymous has been canceled. The group usually meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of the month. Future titles: June 27: "Gilead" by Marilynne Robinson; July 25: "Stones for Ibarra" by Harriet Doerr.

■ If you would like to learn about the Internet or basic word processing, the library offers hour-long appointments on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Its Internet docents will help you learn as much as you would like. Call the library to make an appointment.

## Kensington Library

61 Arlington Ave.  
510-524-3043 or www.cccilb.org  
**Hours:** Mondays and Tuesdays, noon to 8 p.m.; Wednesdays, closed; Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fridays, 1 to 5 p.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

■ Local author Carole Terwilliger Meyers will give a slide presentation of her new book, "Weekend Adventures in San Francisco & Northern California," on Monday, May 8, at 7 p.m. There will be a book signing after the discussion.

■ The next meeting of the library's book club will be Monday, May 22 at 7 p.m. The group will discuss "For Whom the Bell Tolls" by Ernest Hemingway. Future titles: June 26: "A Fine Balance" by Rohinton Mistry; July 24: "The Sea Wolf" by Jack London; Aug. 28: "How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents" by Julia Alvarez; Sept. 25: "Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain; Oct. 23: "The Piano Tuner" by David Mason.

■ The next meeting of the library's knitting club, "Castoffs," will be held Monday, May 1, at 7 p.m. Come for an evening of knitting, show and tell, and yarn exchange. All levels are welcome, and some help will be provided. This group meets the first Monday of every month at the library.

■ Pastel paintings by Oakley artist Nancy Roberts will be featured May 1 through June 15 at the library. In her "Delta Series" she explores the intricate structure of bare trees and shimmering reflections, while her still lifes and florals present a lively new take on familiar subjects.

■ Meet real wild animals during Bonnie Cromwell's Classroom Safari on Tuesday, May 23, at 6:30 p.m. All ages are welcome.

■ Family story times will hold Tuesday evenings on May 9, 16 and 30 at 7 p.m. All ages welcome (best for preschool and older).

— Craig Lazzarotti

E-mail library activity items to journal@cctimes.com, or fax to 510-262-2776, or mail to El Cerrito Journal, 4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA 94806.

## Public librarians seek ongoing improvement

"When you invest in libraries, it's good for the community, it's good for education, it's good for the economy, and it's good for families."

— Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, as quoted in "Urban Libraries Council Conference: Place and Possibility; Chicago PL Showcases Vibrant Neighborhoods." January 2006 ("American Libraries")



JULIE WINKELSTEIN  
At the Library

I RECENTLY ATTENDED a presentation sponsored by the Urban Libraries Council (ULC) — an organization I had heard of but knew little about. Through some research, I found out much more about this association, which is dedicated to "strengthening the public library as an essential part of the urban life" (www.urbanlibraries.org).

It has divided its core purpose into three areas: members, industry and community. In the first area, it highlights the contributions its members make as they share best practices, provide professional development, and help each other find resources and information.

All of these points are relevant to my daily and ongoing involvement in the library world. Sharing best practices

means staying in touch with people who are doing what I am doing — both in a small sense, like exchanging ideas for summer reading games, and in a larger sense, like discussing how the role of the public librarian is changing.

I experience professional development by attending workshops, trainings and conferences that help me grow as a librarian. And sharing resources means just that: whether it is by passing on the name of a good craft person or by working together to improve our library.

Next, industry: "ULC is developing ways to clearly measure and articulate what the public gets and how public library services and resources make a difference in the lives of individuals and communities. It is also a place where li-

brary leaders collectively envision the future."

I find it comforting to know that as I participate every day in providing library services to my community, there is an ongoing examination of how and why what I do matters — and whether changes should be made. It is difficult to balance precedent, a library's mission, and the immediate needs of those we serve, but librarians and libraries are up to the challenge. ULC gives us an idea of how this can be accomplished.

And, finally, the public library's role in the urban community. Librarians are encouraged to form partnerships with local and national agencies, thereby strengthening the library as well as the community.

And libraries — because they serve such a diverse group of people — can bring together people who might not otherwise work together, as pointed out in a report on the ULC Web site ("Better Neighborhoods are Built When Libraries Step Out of Bounds.")

ULC uses a range of ways to support its core purpose. There are projects, such as the ULC Executive Leadership Institute, that train future library leaders.

Events include the presentation I attended at the 2006 Public Library Association conference in Boston, called "Rub A Dub: Three Library Systems Make One Tub," which I described in the March 31 column. And the February 2006 study tour to the new National Library of Taiwan and the Central Library of Hong Kong included 20 ULC colleagues traveling together on a bus.

There are awards, too. For instance, Lynn Lockwood, Baltimore County Public Library, was recently awarded the 2006 "ULC/Sirsi Dymox Player Award" for her leadership in supporting emergency in her area.

As I gathered information about ULC — reading and looking at its Web site, encountering one of its programs came away with such a feeling. Its enthusiastic commitment to the ever-changing urban libraries is not only inspirational, it is also necessary in these times when library budgets are tight and critical decisions need to be made.

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at jwinkelstein@cctimes.com, library.org or at the Albany Library, 510-526-3720. Ext. 17.

## ALBANY SCHOOL NOTES

## Albany High School

**TAX FORUM:** The school district is sponsoring a public-information forum on the 2005 parcel tax allocations on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the AHS multi-purpose room. Everyone is invited to attend the discussion about how to use the 2005 parcel tax revenues during the 2006-07 school year.

**ED HILL SCHOLARSHIP:** Freshmen, sophomores and juniors with an interest in visual art is there an after-school or summer art class, project, or workshop you would like to try? Need a little help with the fees and/or materials? Applications for the Ed Hill Memorial Scholarships are now available for such art experiences. See your counselor.

**AP PROCTORS:** Volunteer proctors are needed for AP exams the mornings of May 1, 2, 3, 8, 10 and 11, and the afternoon of May 8. Parents may not proctor an exam that their student is taking. In most cases you will be working alongside a staff member to help ensure a secure testing environment. You will be provided with all of the information you need to do a good job and feel comfortable. The end time for the exam is a generous estimate — exams will probably be over sooner. Even partial time is helpful. Please contact Becca Burns at beccaburns@albany.k12.ca.us, or 510-558-2508 with the date and time you can come.

**COLLEGE GUIDES:** Athletic Boosters was provided copies of the 2005 Best 357 Colleges, a guide to colleges which it is offering for \$5 to anyone in the AHS community. This overview is a good introduction to the college-selection process. The colleges and universities are reviewed by survey of students attending each university. To purchase a copy, please send \$5 to the main office in an envelope marked Athletic Boosters. Please include a note with a contact person, either the student — who will receive the book in school — or a parent. Please provide an e-mail address or phone number in order to send you a confirmation that your student has received the book or arrange delivery.

**BOOSTERS CONCERT:** The AHS Baseball Boosters will sponsor its second annual concert/fund-raiser, featuring a program of pop, classical and jazz, with the Berkeley Saxophone Quartet, on Sunday, April 30, at 4 p.m. at "The Church on the Cor-

ner," 1319 Solano Ave. in Albany. Tickets will be available at the door, but advance purchase is suggested; and tickets are available from AHS Cougar baseball varsity and JV players. Also on the program will be a surprise special guest vocalist, and Jack Dorsey, one of the Bay Area's finest drummers. Information is available at 510-526-4894.

**POTLUCK READING:** Albany High School poets can sign up to read their poetry at the Albany Spring Arts and Music Festival at Memorial Park on Sunday, April 30, from 3-4 p.m. Contact Ms. Sims in room 204 or Adelle Seares.

**PROM CANDIDATES:** Anyone interested in running for prom queen, king, prince, or princess must inform Mrs. Benau's leadership class. You can find Mrs. Benau in the attendance office, or just drop by room 207 during first period. If you make posters, or do anything to advertise the fact that you are running, you must tell Mrs. Benau in advance.

**MATH OLYMPIAD:** Congratulations to George Shan, who competed in the United States Math Olympiad for a seat on the national team. George is only the third student at AHS to have gotten this far in the competition since 1972.

**GRAD NIGHT:** Preparations are under way for graduation night festivities. Buy a Cougar paw to honor your graduate and dedicate the proceeds to the Class of '06. The Wall of Honor is the commemorative wall in the first floor hallway of Albany High School. The wall consists of metallic paws in an antique bronze finish with an engraved message of your choice. The paws are available in either a five-inch (\$100) or 10-inch size (\$300) with up to six lines of engraving. The Albany High School Athletic Boosters accepts the donations and facilitates the production of the Cougar paws for a small fee. The remaining donation (\$65 for small and \$200 for large) is credited to the program of your choice, or an individual class. Order forms are available in the main office or by e-mail at ahsathleticboosters@yahoo.com.

**WORKABILITY PROGRAM:** Local employers are invited and encouraged to participate in the WorkAbility program, which provides pre-employment work site training, employment, and follow-

See ALBANY, Page A8

## EL CERRITO/KENSINGTON SCHOOL NOTES

## El Cerrito High School

**GRADUATION LEIS:** Purple orchid Hawaiian leis are on sale for \$15. They will be available for pick-up on Thursday, June 8. Details about pick-up will be provided in June. All leis need to be pre-ordered and paid for before the deadline of Friday, May 19. Proceeds will benefit the ECHS Grad Nite. For more information, e-mail cchan2429@aol.com.

## Harding Elementary

**RUMMAGE SALE:** Will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Harding Multipurpose Room. Enjoy baked goodies while you shop for household goods, clothing, toys and antiques. Proceeds benefit Harding students. Bring your food items before 9 a.m.

**PTA MEETING:** The PTA will nominate officers for the 06/07 executive board at its Monday meeting. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. in the school library. Child care will be provided. To join the board or to find out more about any of the positions open for next year, contact Georgia Hallinan at georgiahallinan@comcast.net or Liz Smith at bink12@bocglobal.net.

**POTLUCK:** A multicultural family potluck will be held Thursday, May 4 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Harding cafeteria. Bring your family's favorite entree or side dish to share with other Harding families. The PTA supplies drinks and desserts. Volunteers are needed. Please call Julie at 510-525-6003.

**HARDING OLYMPICS:** The second annual Harding Olympics will be Wednesday, May 31. Sign-up sheets will go home with students. Volunteers are needed to help solicit merchant prizes. If you can help, please contact Tara at Tara.Fauria@McKesson.com.

**REGISTRATION:** General registration at Harding will take place through May 5. Register before May 5 for limited

openings. General registration (through sixth grade) for the May 4-May 5. Harding has a few openings in grade one, two and grade three. For more information, call the Harding office at 510-231-1413.

## Kensington Elementary

**PTA ELECTIONS:** The PTA will hold elections for its executive board May 4 (the last general meeting school year) at 7 p.m. To join the board or to find out more about the positions, contact Kathy Meurer, treasurer, at JKMEURER@aol.com.

**DADS' CLUB MEETING:** Will be May 9 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the multipurpose room. All parents invited.

**SPRING CARNIVAL:** The Kensington PTA and the Kensington School will host the school's 59th annual spring carnival on Saturday, May 11, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. As in previous years, the 2006 carnival will offer a wide range of games for kids of all ages, a great selection of food and lunch offerings from the Dad's grill, treats from the bake sale, visit from the Kensington police fire departments. And, as has been the case for the previous 22 years, quilt designed and crafted by Kensington parents will be raffled off after the afternoon. For more information, contact Alison Roberts (Kensington) by e-mail at alisonroberts@cctimes.com or Walt Gill (Dads' Club) at wgill335@comcast.net.

— Craig Lazzarotti

School notes may be e-mailed to journal@cctimes.com, or fax to 510-262-2776, or mailed to El Cerrito Journal, 4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA 94806.

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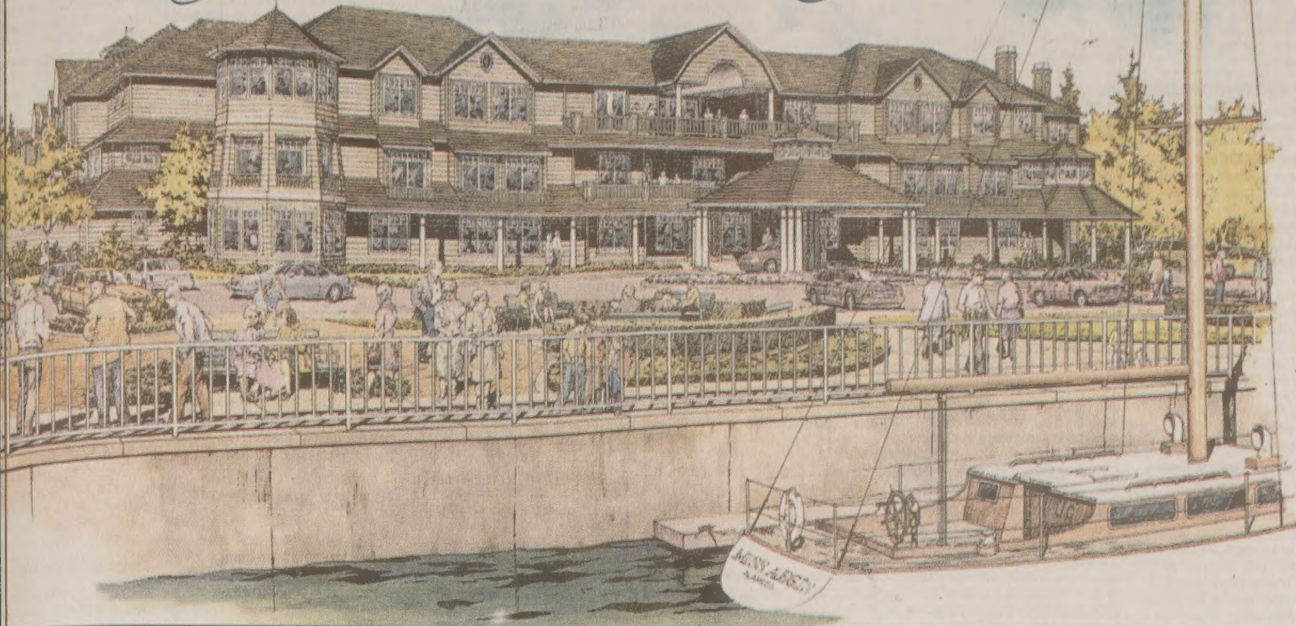
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# Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis. Mail submissions to Pam Middings, 1516 Oak St., Alameda, CA 94501; e-mail them to pmiddings@cctmes.com or fax them to 510-748-1680. Call 510-748-1683 if you have questions.

## Coming Up

### Learning

■ **Vista Community College** — Workshops 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Room 303, 2020 Milvia St., Berkeley: **April 29**, "Destination Studies: Greece and Turkey." — **May 7 & 14**, "Employment Preparation for the Travel Industry." Details: 510-981-2913, 510-981-2800 or peralta.edu.

■ **"Making the Connections:** — Israeli-Palestinian Peace and U.S. Middle East Policy. Where do we go from here?" **April 30**, 1 p.m., Redwood Gardens, 2951 Derby St., Berkeley. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom presents speaker Libby Frank. Free. Details: 510-665-5459, 510-482-1258, internacia.net/wilpf/eastbay/.

■ **Argentine Tango Beginner Series** — **May 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22**; 7:30-9 p.m. in the Fitness Center, Claremont Hotel, 41 Tunnel Rd., Berkeley. Instructors: Andres, Meredith, David, Stella. Drop-in \$15/class; series of 6 \$65-\$75. Details: Stella 510-655-3585, e-mail smrling@msn.com, stellatangocom. Club members contact Katy 510-549-8512, katy.yong@hrc.com.

■ **My Toddler and Me Discovery Group** — Through **May 4**, Thursdays 10:30-11:45 a.m., Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley. Play, learn & discover in facilitated, creative, play-based interactive group for babies ages 10-20 months & their parents. Cost: \$12/session. Registration: 510-848-0237 x127.

■ **"A Pictorial History of Palestine"** — from the late Ottoman Period to 1948, **May 5**, 7 p.m., St. Joseph the Worker Church, 1640 Addison St., Berkeley. Palestinian-Americans Mona & David Halaby tell their family stories, show photos. Free. Details: 510-708-3347.

■ **Pacific Center for the Photo-graphic Arts** — Digital Essentials class, **May 6**, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Center for Digital Storytelling, 1803 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley. Cost: \$160-\$190 includes photo shoot, computer lab, lunch. — **Portfolio Review class**, **May 19**, 7-9:30 p.m., Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Cost: \$35-\$45. Details: 510-428-9169, info@pcaphoto.org.

■ **RabbitEARS** — 303 Arlington Ave., Kensington. **May 7**, 2-4 p.m., Beyond Rescue Remedy: Flower Essences for Animals, holistic healing therapy for such problems as aggression, allergies, parasites, grief, more. \$15 donation. — **May 13**, 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Non-Anesthetic Teeth Cleaning for Pets \$35, nail trim \$12, more. — **May 21**, 2-4 p.m., Meet the Guinea Pigs, learn all about guinea pigs as pets, meet adoptable pets. — **May 28**, 2-4 p.m., The Joy of Rats, meet adoptable rats & learn about feeding, habitat, grooming, healthcare. \$15 donation. Details: 510-525-6155, fixpets@yahoo.com.

■ **Jazz & Popular Music Chorus** — **May 8-July 24**, Mondays 7:30-9:30 p.m., Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. Class with repertoire of jazz, blues, popular, folk, rock,



JOSEPH THORNTON

**KHALIL SHAHEED'S MO'ROCKING PROJECT**, offering a mix of jazz with melodies and musical traditions from Morocco, will perform at the inaugural Berkeley International Food Festival. The festival takes place from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday at the corner of University and San Pablo avenues. For information, call 510-845-4106 or visit [www.berkeleyinternationalfoodfestival.com](http://www.berkeleyinternationalfoodfestival.com)

Motown, acappella for teenagers & adults interested in informal choir singing and performance. Audition required. 10 meetings plus performance. Cost: \$177-\$187. Registration: 510-524-9283, albanycal.org.

■ **Integrative Health Panel Discussion** — Osteoporosis Prevention, **May 9**, 7-9 p.m., Elephant Pharmacy, 1607 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. In-depth discussion explores osteoporosis & bone health with panelists representing diverse healing traditions. Discover how to improve bone health. Details: elephantpharmacy.com.

■ **Berkeley Adult School** — Career Fair, **May 12**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., 1702 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Features companies from parcel service, banking, transportation, government, healthcare, hospitality, retail, security, more. Free. Details: 510-644-8968.

### Literary events

■ **Open mic event** — Berkeley Arts Magnet Elementary School, **April 29**, 2-4 p.m., Allen Ginsberg Memorial Poetry Garden, 1645 Milvia St., Berkeley. Open to all; priority reading to elementary school students. Details: steprose@berkeley.edu.

■ **Poetry Flash** — Poetry readings, 7:30 p.m., Cody's Books, 2454 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. **Feb. 22**, Luis Garcia, David Gittin, Belle Randall. Details: 510-845-7852 or poetryflash.org.

■ **Meet the Author** — Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley. — **April 30**, 10:30 a.m., brunch & program "The Creative Dialogue: Jewish Women's Voices in Prose and Poetry - A Conversation and Reading with Chana Bloch & Elizabeth Rosner." \$5. Details: brjcc.org, 510-848-0237 x132.

■ **Poetry reading** — **April 30**, 3 p.m., Fox Commons Art Gallery, 1672 University Ave., Berkeley. Features Beverly Burch & Robert Thomas.

■ **Poetry Express** — Mondays, 7 p.m., Priya Indian Cuisine, 2072 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Weekly open mike hosted by Mark Stas. Coming up: **May 1**: Alice Templeton. **May 8**: Jeanne Powell, Stephen Koppel. **May 15**: Sonya Renee. **May 22**: Garrett Murphy. **June 5**: Avotcja, Ramon Pinerio. Details: berkeleypoetryexpress@yahoo.com.

■ **Actors Reading Writers** — Cele-

brating Writing through Live Readings, **May 1**, 7:30 p.m., Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. "Straight from the Artist's mouth," excerpts from biographies of Marc Chagall, Marie Dressler, Isadora Duncan, Groucho Marx. Free, 7 p.m., piano music by Paul Bregman. Book exchange; bring a book or take a book. Details: juliamorgan.org.

■ **Slideshow & book signing** — **May 8**, 7 p.m., Kensington Library, 61 Arlington Ave., Kensington. 510-524-3043. Carole Twiliger Meyers reads from "Weekend Adventures in San Francisco & Northern California."

■ **Friends of the Kensington Library Book Sale** — **May 13**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; **May 14**, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Blvd., Kensington. **May 13**, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Silent Auction. **May 14**, 3-4 p.m., Bag Sale.

■ **Friends of the Albany Library Book Sale** — **May 13**, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; **May 14**, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., Albany. Bargain books, magazines, videos, records. **May 14**, 3-4 p.m., bag sale. Details: 510-526-3720, rdavis@acilibrary.org.

■ **Rhythm and Muse** — 7 p.m., Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St. Piano & two mics available. Free; donations appreciated. Upcoming: **May 27**, John Menaghan. **June 24**, Marc Eliu Hofstadter. Details: 510-644-8893 or 510-527-9753.

### Meetings

■ **Berkeley Garden Club** — **May 16**, 2 p.m., Epworth Methodist Church, 1953 Hopkins St., Berkeley. Gordon Franklin, U.C. Professor of Entomology talks on "California Native Bumble and Other Bees." Details: 510-527-5641.

### Community

■ **"How'd you Become Activists & What Now?"** — **April 28**, 7 p.m., Berkeley Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall, 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley. Features human rights activists Paul Larudee & Barbara Bechdel. \$10 donation. Details: 510-528-5403.

■ **Aurora School Spring Auction** — "Knight at the Roundtable," **April 29**, 6-8 p.m., Berkeley Faculty Club, UC Berkeley campus. Silent & live auctions. Proceeds benefit Aurora School & its scholarship fund. Tickets: \$50. Details: Randee 510-428-2606 x207.

## Police

FROM PAGE A1

Officers drive 20-year-old cruisers. They've had five police chiefs in five years. The wages, half or a third of those at other law enforcement agencies, make it nearly impossible to hire and keep staff members that can properly protect 32,000 students spread across 110 square miles.

At a recent school board meeting, Officer Thomas Bertera scoffed at the board for letting the force go to seed, then rebuking employees for its poor state.

"What do I have to thank you for?" Bertera said. "Thank you for your arrogance and lack of support."

### From guards to police

The district police force began as a group of security guards in the 1960s and morphed into a police department in the 1970s, said Vince Kilmartin, associate superintendent of operations.

At its largest, the department boasted about 26 officers, multiple clerical staff members, a chief and a sergeant, Kilmartin said. However, budget constraints over the past three decades whittled down the force to a squad of 10.

The Commission of Peace Officer Standards and Training sets training guidelines for sworn officers, including school district police. Under the voluntary standards, school police officers must receive commission-certified police academy training, undergo medical and psychological evaluations, take a polygraph test and pass a background check.

Only five of the district's officers attended a police academy, said Kilmartin, but the force still meets the guidelines.

The district hired the majority of its officers before 1999, when new state rules went into effect, Kilmartin said. Before that year, school police officers could clear state requirements by taking an administrative justice course.

The lack of ongoing, comprehensive training was laid bare in the 2002 audit, which also describes other systemic inadequacies: chronic understaffing, missing training records, aging equipment. The report suggested strengthening the force to 26 officers, three sergeants and a permanent chief; turning officers into security guards; or disbanding the force entirely.

"Maintaining the department in its present, seriously deficient condition exposes the district to numerous problems and liabilities," the report read.

Since then, the force has shrunk by several employees and been implicated in mishaps resulting in injury and damage to school property.

In 2003, a burglary suspect at Downer Elementary School in San Pablo stabbed district Officer Chris Gruneth in the leg after he failed to properly restrain the suspect or call for backup. Later that year, Gruneth accidentally fired his gun at Pinole Valley High School after struggling with another burglary suspect in the morning before school started. Gruneth has since left the district.

In March 2005, a district officer

answered an alarm at Helms Middle School but failed to prevent vandals from committing \$30,000 in damage, said Principal Harriet MacLean. She arrived to find the classrooms spray-painted, windows broken and the master keys missing.

"It was the incompetence of a district officer that allowed four boys to be in my building for six hours on a Saturday night," MacLean told the school board in August. "I need people who will meet the highest standard."

Last school year, violence flared up at the district's suburban high schools. In Pinole, a student went to the emergency room in January after an unprovoked beating by a mob of boys. In Hercules, a May beating captured on tape made headlines nationwide. In June at De Anza High School, an instructional aide was attacked by students who punched and kicked him.

Parents say they looked to district police and found them unable to do their job: keeping the peace.

"It has been increasingly apparent that school officers are not effective on campus," said Lorna Padia, a parent of a De Anza senior and member of the school safety committee.

"One, they lack the authority to follow through. And two, there's not enough of them. They do not have the training or the leadership to be effective."

### Finding a few good men

In January 2005, the district hired Robert Sherock, a retired Sheriff's Office lieutenant, to clean up the force. He rolled out a plan to contract out policing to the Sheriff's Office to provide what are called school resource officers.

Although backed by six local police chiefs, from Richmond, San Pablo, Kensington, Pinole, Hercules and El Cerrito, the plan crumbled in summer because of union resistance. Sherock resigned in August.

Instead, the board pledged to beef up the force to 16 officers, offer \$7,500 more for earning state certification and create two sergeant positions so that officers could be promoted once they joined the force. The hope was that the issue of retention would be solved if officers could ascend to higher-paying jobs.

Little has changed because hiring qualified candidates remains as daunting as ever: Police departments and sheriff's offices desperate for officers pay more, snapping up attractive candidates as they exit the academies.

The Contra Costa Sheriff's Office pays starting deputies nearly \$75,000, according to the office. District officers earn close to \$47,000, according to the union.

"What is left to us is people who can't get hired anywhere else," Pfeifer said.

In January, the district swore in three new recruits: Mario Gates, Joseph Lee and Manuel Regalado.

Only Gates lasted past March 1, Alameda Sheriff's Office deputies Lee on suspicion of being accessory to a murder when he also was present.

According to the Sheriff's Office, Lee had promised quiet about a November in San Lorenzo where security guard Hussam Hosseini shot and killed a teacher in a dispute about a student. The district fired Lee and Kilmartin said.

The two had graduated Napa police academy but found jobs at local police departments. They wound up with security guards with Kilmartin joining the district.

Across the country, school districts operate their own force because of the difficult cost, liability and recruitment.

The Oakland school board to disband its force about a year ago, allowing the Oakland Department to take over the land school district pays \$1 million a year to patrol high schools.

"The competency tends to be a little better in city departments," said Lt. Anthony Rachal of the Oakland Police Department. "You tend to have a ficer."

Ultimately, investment it takes to make any department work, says El Cerrito Police Chief Scott Kirkland. "You get what you pay for."

### Negotiations continue

The school district is in negotiations with the union over local force. School board members remain at odds over the board of action.

Boards President Charles Sey said he approves of outside agencies and school. "I think the hybrid approach is a good approach," Ramsey said. "We can't just have to be tractated out."

With its own force, the has officers reporting back to district rather than to an entity.

"Any institution coming the outside is going to have on our institutional knowledge figure out what's best," Ramsey said.

District Officer Felipe Ica, an officer for nearly said Richmond High School students come to him with trouble because they know him. He described how many caller once rang him asked for him by name and him of a gang fight after.

Students would never sheriff's deputies, Langarica said. "It's not that SROs are people," Langarica said. "I just know that they have the experience."

## Albany

FROM PAGE A6

up service for high-school aged youth. Local employers provide a working environment, a place where students have the opportunity to gain knowledge and skills necessary to make informed career-related decisions. Students are matched with employers based on their abilities and are paid by either employer or WorkAbility funds. Information is available from WorkAbility Coordinator Sarah Pichler at 510-558-2519.

### Albany Middle School

**PLAY DATES:** This year's play, "From the Slums of Piedmont," will be performed May 5, 6, 12 and 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the AHS Little Theater. Play tickets are on sale at the school office. The cost is \$10.

**PTA MEETING:** The next PTA meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 4, at 7 p.m. in the library. The PTA is looking for people willing to take on positions for next year.

**BOYS BASKETBALL CAMP:** If you are interested in a boys basketball camp this summer at AHS, see Mr. Law in room 212 or ask your teacher for more information.

### Marin Elementary

**MARIN DE MAYO:** Tickets to the second annual Marin de Mayo are on sale through May 5. The fier that was sent home includes an order form, and information and order forms are also avail-

able in the office. You can drop the completed order form to your teacher or the office. Tickets are also on sale Wednesdays after school during ice cream sales.

### Ocean View Elementary

**COOKIE DOUGH FUND-RAISER:** This year, the Ocean View PTA is trying a new fund-raiser — cookie dough sales. One fund will be distributed May 31 — parent volunteers are needed. If you can help, please contact the office.

**WALKATHON:** The Walkathon is scheduled for May 6 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The school needs donations of food, raffle prizes, and time for staffing the event. Please return the notice asking for help.

**TALENT SHOW:** In anticipation of the Ocean View Talent Show, the school is seeking stage lighting. Do you work for a company that has access to such lighting, or know a business that might be interested in donating? Please contact the office.

**PTA BOARD:** Have you considered becoming a member of PTA's leadership board? All current board members will be moving on next year, and new ideas and support are needed. Nominations will be accepted at the May 8 board meeting.

### Education funders

**STORE DONATIONS:** On Saturday and Sunday, Five Little Monkeys (unique toys and gifts) and Sweet Potatoes (children's clothing size 0-14) will donate 10 percent of their total sales equally to the

Albany Education Foundation and SchoolCARE. Customers do not have to mention the promotion, give school codes or turn in any receipts, as the amount being given is for 10 percent of the day's total sales, regardless of who makes purchases those days. Five Little Monkeys is located at 1230 Solano Ave. and is open 9-6 on Saturday and 10-6 on Sunday. Sweet Potatoes is located at 1224 Solano Ave., and is open from 10-6 Saturday and 11-5 on Sunday.

**LAWN SIGNS:** SchoolCARE invites you to post a sign that you are available and will be delivered to your doorstep by request. Please send an e-mail to Cindy Solomon at [colmn2000@yahoo.com](mailto:colmn2000@yahoo.com) with "SchoolCARE" in the subject line. Put your name and phone number with your street address in the body of the e-mail — and the lawn sign will be delivered to you. Specify whether you want a lawn sign or window sign, and best place to leave the sign. She'll notify the

delivery team. And if you haven't had a moment yet to make your donation, please do so. Mail donations to SchoolCARE, 1563 Solano Ave., #537, Albany, CA 94707. For more information, go to [www.albanyschoolcare.org](http://www.albanyschoolcare.org).

**PHONATHON:** It's the season once again for the SchoolCARE Phonathon, and volunteers are needed. With an investment of just two hours of your time for either one week or two, you can raise money and awareness. The phonathon is May 7-21. To help, please contact Karen Carlson-Olsen at [hao\\_kco@earthlink.net](mailto:hao_kco@earthlink.net) or 510-524-7004.

**SCOOPS FOR SCHOOLS:** The Albany Education Foundation's annual Scoops for Schools celebration is scheduled for Sunday, May 7 at 2 p.m. in the community center.

— Bob Menzimer

E-mail school notes items to Bob Menzimer at [megabob@pacbell.net](mailto:megabob@pacbell.net).

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# Methodist

PAGE A1

The church, which predates the incorporation, will celebrate its 100th anniversary with a big carnival and worship service located at 6830 Stockton.

The church began as a Sunday school in 1906 in a one-room wood building and shingled building at 524 Grand St. It was known as the El Cerrito School, and was later called El Cerrito Chapel.

About the size of a school classroom, it was heated by a coal stove and lit by two kerosene lamps hanging from the ceiling," according to the church's history. "Thirty to forty children sat on wooden benches and tried to carry on three lessons in one room at the same time."

At 11 a.m., interested laymen, ministers or Sunday School teachers will be present to preach to adults.

As the church grew, it relocated to Grand and Everett streets in the El Cerrito area. It became the United Methodist Church after the Evangelical United Brethren Church united in 1919. Nationally, the church has about 10 million members.

There is a number of Protestant denominations, the Methodist Church is one of the largest, nationally and locally, the Rev. Hubert Sowers said.

In the 1960s, the church could not hold 100 people attending services every week. Today, about 30 attend Sunday services, and it counts 200 members.

The challenge is how to meet the needs of a diverse population, Sowers said.

In the next 100 years, we're going to figure out how to address the challenges in creative ways," Sowers said. "We're experimenting to make it work."

Experiments have included the church's Chiorescuro trilogy, which explores the symbolism of darkness. In a prologue first play performed last

## IF YOU GO:

- **WHAT:** El Cerrito United Methodist Church 100-year anniversary
- **WHEN:** A church spring carnival from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday. The event will include face painting, silent movies, carnival games, and a crafts and rummage sale. A worship, program and lunch will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 2:20 p.m. Sunday.
- **WHERE:** The El Cerrito United Methodist Church, 6830 Stockton Ave.
- **INFORMATION:** Call Janet Sowers at 510-236-3009.

Christmas, Lucifer reminded people that they have free will.

"You can choose not to obey God," he said.

The church has also incorporated musical styles not always seen in traditional church formats.

On Easter, the choir sang hymns accompanied by brass instruments, bongos and musical handbells that rang with a flick of the wrist.

Partridge, the musical director for three years, said the church can't compete with others in size but can offer an edgier worship service that may draw people turned off by more traditional faith.

"I'm gratified that the church has allowed me to do this," Partridge said, "even though some people are uncomfortable with it. Most people are very supportive of it."

Not everyone was supportive when Phil Lawson, the congregation's first black pastor, began preaching there in 1980.

Today, Lawson, the president of the Greater Richmond Interfaith Program, said the church had always accepted parishioners of color but was threatened by a black person in a leadership role.

A number of people left the church when he took over.

"I perceived that they were not willing to accept me as their pastor," said Lawson, a Hercules resident who ran the church until 1986. "It was a trying time for my wife and family and daughter, because of the hostility that was never confronted or placed on the table."

Longtime members, however, differ on whether people left because of race or Lawson's leadership style.

"He was an upcoming man who was very open to new ideas," church historian Marie Shelley said. "This church has been rather conservative for years. It just didn't go over with conservative people."

But as the Bay Area has become more liberal and open, so has the El Cerrito Methodist Church. Janette Saavedra, the first female pastor, led the church from 1994 until 1999, when Ivery, who is black, took over.

Ivery said he never experienced any racial tension.

"I think some of the tension experienced (in the past) was probably personality and styles," he said.

Virginia Mueller, a member of the church for more than 40 years, said the El Cerrito Methodist congregation is far more welcoming today.

"The church doesn't seem to be as important in people's lives as it used to be," Mueller said. "Because of that, we have changed from a very fundamental, very straight-laced church to being much more open and inviting."

That appeals to Cindy Leondeore, a 27-year-old who chairs the church committee that is shaking up its worship services.

Leondeore, a lab technician at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Albany, said she likes that the church is so active despite its small size.

In particular, members support the Greater Richmond Interfaith Program (GRIP), a homeless support organization; as well as IREX, a new project started by church member Oscar Romo. The program is intended to get computers into the hands of underprivileged youth.

As for the centennial, Leondeore said she's not that interested in how long the congregation has been in existence. What matters, she said, is how vital and engaged it is now.

"One hundred years," she said, "means that we have a lot of traditional elements we can pull from when we are going forward."

Caruso development and establish its own planning process.

Vice Mayor Farid Javandel supported the city attorney's proposal.

"From an idealistic perspective, it may be a good way to go," Javandel said. "It doesn't necessarily play into the desires or interests of any one group, quite the same way as the proposals we have had to date."

# Landscape

FROM PAGE A1

"When bad times come again, like they have previously, the lights could be turned off again, for example," she said. "That's what it means; that's what's happened in the past."

## Harter

FROM PAGE A1

Harter has a 35-year career in education and spent the past 14 years as superintendent in three different states.

He raised test scores in the 70,000-student Lee County, Fla., district, helped close the achievement gap in Delaware and managed school construction in both places — making him a perfect candidate for West Contra Costa, Ramsey said.

"I felt like we needed to go with someone with that kind of experience," Ramsey said.

The urban West Contra Costa school district has an operating budget of more than \$275 million and is in the middle of renovating nearly 40 campuses with nearly \$1 billion worth of voter-approved construction bonds.

While achievement has steadily improved over the past five years, at least five schools face consequences after repeatedly failing to

Residents Peter and Rosemary Loubal said they voted against the assessment increase.

"It lost because they didn't make a compelling reason for people to vote," Peter Loubal said. "That's why they only had a 43 percent ballot return. Most people just ignored it."

Residential property owners

were asked to pay an increase of \$43 or \$31.50 annually, depending on whether the lot size is greater or less than 5,000 square feet. Commercial property owners were asked to pay based on the size of their lots or number of housing units.

Single-family homes comprised 64 percent of the total properties, Pinkos said.

meet federal standards. Less than half of the district's 52 schools cleared federal hurdles last year. The dropout rate sits at nearly 25 percent.

Harter said he is eager to take on the task of running the complicated urban district, which stretches from Hercules to El Cerrito.

"That's the kind of challenge that appeals to me," Harter said.

He accepted the top job in Brandywine after the superintendent left following a corruption scandal. The district, split among white suburbs and largely black Wilmington, still felt the rift of segregation.

"Bruce cleaned all that up," said Joseph Brumskill, Brandywine school board vice president.

Harter said his primary focus lies in the classroom, particularly in bettering the education of students of color. During his time in Delaware, achievement scores for black students rose by 36 percent, and more black students entered advanced placement classes.

"It isn't just about getting kids

up to the minimum standards," Harter said. "It's about taking them as far as they can go."

His appointment ends months of silence surrounding the search. More than 80 candidates applied for the job vacated by former superintendent Gloria Johnston, who left in August.

The school board interviewed seven finalists, Ramsey said, and held a second round of interviews with two. Harter was also named as a finalist for superintendent jobs in Arkansas, Delaware and Tennessee, but he refused one offer to take the job in West Contra Costa, Ramsey said.

Another quality that impressed board members was Harter's ability to work with others.

"His philosophy is to really engage and work with teachers, staff and parents," said board member Dave Brown. "I think that's something we need right now."

Shirley Dang covers education. Reach her at 510-262-2798 or sdang@ccimes.com.

## Sale

FROM PAGE A1

Hills Newspapers, which is affiliated with the Contra Costa Times, consists of the Alameda Journal, Montclairian, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice and The Journal, which serves Albany, El Cerrito and Kensington.

The deal hands a vast swath of the Bay Area newspaper market to William Dean Singleton, a media mogul who has earned a reputation both for slashing costs and jobs at some newspapers he acquires, as well as increasing salaries and beefing up staffing at other papers he buys.

"We still have a competitor across the Bay that is very fierce in the Chronicle," Singleton, chief executive of MediaNews, said during an appearance in the Times' Walnut Creek newsroom Wednesday. "They're the big bad metro, and we're the little guys chipping

at their heels. I just hope we can chip a little harder now."

The prospect of staff reductions was also addressed by Singleton.

"We do not expect any layoffs as a result of this transaction," Singleton said. "I add a caveat: We all know that market conditions can be cruel. Local management has to make decisions from time to time to adjust the size of the staff."

He added that nobody will be obliged to reapply for their jobs or suffer pay or benefit cuts. Applause interrupted Singleton several times.

The transaction would occur following Sacramento-based McClatchy Co.'s purchase of San Jose-based Knight Ridder, current owner of the Times and Hills. As soon as that \$4 billion-plus deal is complete, McClatchy will sell the Times and Hills, along with the three other papers, to MediaNews and Hearst Corp., owner of the San Francisco Chronicle. McClatchy will retain 20 papers, and has been seeking buyers for 12 it won't keep,

including the Times and Hills. The Knight Ridder sale is due to be completed this summer.

Hearst has agreed to "contribute" the St. Paul Pioneer Press and Monterey County Herald to MediaNews in return for an equity investment in MediaNews assets outside the Bay Area. If the transaction isn't completed, for regulatory reasons or otherwise, MediaNews has agreed to acquire the two newspapers from Hearst.

MediaNews, once all the sales and investments are complete, will be the primary owner and operator of the Times and Hills, and the other three papers.

Both Singleton and John Armstrong, president of Contra Costa Newspapers and publisher of the Times and Hills, said McClatchy may have erred when it decided to jettison the Times and the Mercury News.

"I want to make McClatchy regret their decision that they didn't keep us," Armstrong said.

## Waterfront

PAGE A1

city would also solicit a proposal for a waterfront park by environmental groups and produce two new waterfront parks. The city staff would create a scaled-down version of the model and another based on the assumption that the race-track would cease operation at a certain time.

Magna continues to say it plans to cease racetrack operations, speculation has grown in recent years about the future of the racing at Golden Gate. Magna's financial

city would also analyze environmental, fiscal and legal aspects of the alternatives as the effect on property value according to Pollard's report. The end result, Pollard said, would be one where the city would have factual information with which to analyze the pros and cons of changes to zoning and/or property, and give its interest in voting to support those changes.

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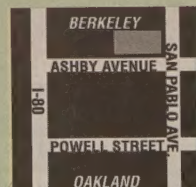
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# Real Estate

HOUSES • RENTALS • COMMERCIAL • MORTGAGES

## It's time like the present to buy a house

MAN NEWS  
You postponed buying a house during recent years, or you're simply unable to buy due to competition from other buyers. Now could be the window of opportunity you've been waiting for. Interest rates, although rising, are still low. And, the inventory of homes is increasing.

The first step is to find out how much you can afford to pay by

with a mortgage broker or lender. Knowing the price range you can afford to pay will help you to decide whether to buy a single-family home or a condominium. Condos are less expensive, but your price will also

be affected by the neighborhoods in which you are able to buy.

**HOUSE HUNTING TIP:** It's a good idea to get pre-approved for the mortgage you'll need to complete the purchase. In order to get pre-approved, you'll need to complete a loan application and have your credit checked. This takes time. If you aren't already up with a mortgage pre-approval, interview several before you get the pre-approval.

Each person you interview will have your mortgage options, but some are more available than others. Find a mortgage broker or lender who will take the time

to explain the pros and cons of the various mortgage options in words you understand.

Pre-approval can make a big difference in your negotiations with the seller. Recently, an Oakland seller received two outstanding offers. One was accompanied by a pre-approval letter that included underwriting approval from the lender and verification of the buyers' funds for the down payment and closing costs.



**DIAN HYMER**  
House Hunting

your agent and get feedback on how realistic it is. Buying a home will inevitably involve compromise. Fine-tune the list after you have incorporated your agent's input. Determine which items on the list are must-haves and which ones you can do without.

It's wise to get pre-approved for the mortgage you'll need to complete the purchase. This takes time so if you aren't already hooked up with a mortgage person, interview several before you go through the pre-approval process.

The second offer was presented with a letter from the buyers' mortgage broker that didn't include underwriting approval and was subject to verification of the buyers' funds needed to close.

The sellers accepted the first offer. The next step is to find a good real estate agent. This doesn't necessarily mean the agent who sells the most property. Your agent should be ethical, professional, trustworthy and diligent, and should specialize in the area where you want to live. Other key attributes are good negotiation skills and a willingness to commit time and attention to your needs.

It's helpful to prepare a wish list of all the features you'd ideally like in a home. Share this list with

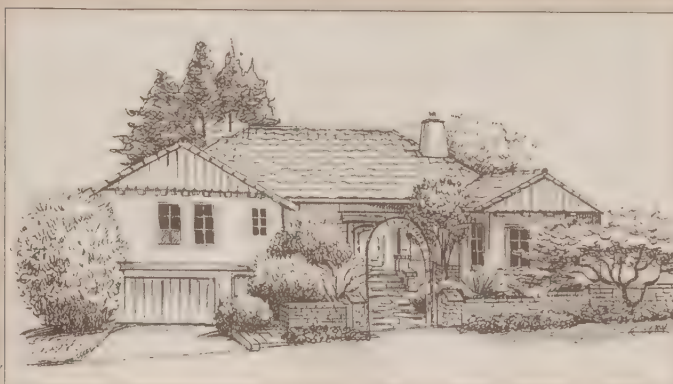
your search. How long this will take depends on what you're looking for and whether it's readily available. In areas where there is a glut of listings on the market, you'll have an easier time finding a home and there will be more opportunity to negotiate on the price and terms.

In low inventory markets, you may find yourself in competition. However, unlike last year, it appears that multiple offers in today's market aren't necessarily boosting the price considerably over the asking price.

Where inventories are skimpy, you'll have more success if you relax your search parameters and broaden your horizons. For instance, you might look in more

### Real Estate Spotlight:

## Picturesque English Country-style home



**THIS ENCHANTING FOUR-PLUS BEDROOM**, three-plus bath home at 22 Kenyon Avenue, Kensington welcomes you into a lush entry courtyard with mature plants, a handsome brick wall and a trellised gate. The decorative front door, with its elaborate doorcase, leads into a small vestibule opening to a grand living room. This room features head-on Golden Gate views, an open beamed ceiling, and a handsome brick fireplace. There are two decks, a formal dining room with splendid Bay views, a master suite, and downstairs, a large recreation room and slate-floored garden room. The back garden is very private and has raised beds for vegetables; the front garden is invitingly landscaped. Beautiful wood floors, traditional mullioned windows, elegant wrought-iron fixtures, two Art Nouveau-influenced stained glass windows and built-in furniture such as the breakfast room cupboards provide unity of design sensitive to the Regency-esque feel of the home. Many upgrades in the bathrooms provide the best of modern conveniences. This delightful home is a half block to Kensington Hilltop School and minutes to Tilden Park, the UC campus, and the restaurants and shops of Kensington Village.

**Price:** \$1,250,000 **Open Sunday, April 30 and May 7, 2-4:30 pm**

**Listing agents:** Ron Eggherman and Todd Hodson, Marvin Gardens Real Estate, 510-524-0800.

than one area or be more flexible on the architectural style you're willing to accept.

Don't overlook listings that have been on the market for a while. The sellers might be open

to negotiating. And keep an eye open for price reductions. Most buyers concentrate on listings that are new on the market.

**THE CLOSING:** A better deal might be made on a listing that

isn't drawing a lot of attention.

*Dian Hymer is a Realtor, author and nationally syndicated columnist. She can be reached at 510-339-4777 or via e-mail at [Dian@Dianhymer.com](mailto:Dian@Dianhymer.com).*

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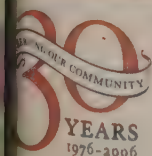
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## Berkeley's South Side lofts now available

PREMIUM PROPERTIES AND DEVELOPMENT

New lofts have replaced an old burned-out liquor store and a coin laundry in Berkeley.

"This is one of the few new condo developments to come to South Berkeley in some time," said Realtor Craig Beckerman. "We are excited about the opportunity to offer additional homes to the residential market. A cafe and other retail shops will add vibrancy and shopping continuity to this block of Telegraph Avenue."

Kava Massih Architects designed the condominiums, which feature two-level loft-style units with designer granite kitchens, marble baths and concrete floors.

Architectural features include high ceilings, open floor plans, and soaring windows. "These lofts are beautiful, inside and out," said Realtor Brenda Walker. "The architects designed the building, the homes and the community spaces to contribute to the area's beauty."

Glass block walls have been preserved adjacent to the garden, and provide a historic testament to the engineering of the Concrete Grid Forms Company, which stood on the spot about 1938.

The lofts are in an ideal South Berkeley location, close to Whole Foods Market, Alta Bates Hospital and the University of California. There is access to bus service on Telegraph Avenue, BART and connections to Bay Area freeways.

The developer, Sam Sorokin of Premium Properties and Development, is a local property manager and former Berkeley Rent Board member. "We are excited about the building near-

### FINISHES AND AMENITIES

- Vaulted ceilings soar up to 21 feet high in living room
- Beautiful concrete floors
- Expansive windows with partial bay views
- Private balconies with views of the Berkeley hills
- Flexible floor plans and large upstairs mezzanines
- First floor bedrooms, some with an additional office
- In-home gas laundry hookups
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ing completion," said Sorokin. "We have come a long way in a short time and believe the building will add vitality to the neighborhood."

The kitchen features beautiful granite counter tops, Mandarin cherry Italian cabinets with full extension dovetail drawers and stainless-steel Frigidaire appliances.

In the bathrooms you'll find a creme marfil marble tile tub surround and slab countertops and an over-sized tub. Most units offer an additional half bathroom.

The project's "green building" features include high efficiency 92 percent forced-air central furnaces with fresh air intake, large double-pane aluminum windows to maximize natural light, Energy Star appliances with fluorescent lighting in various areas and stainless steel ceiling fans in the living rooms.

Beckerman and Walker will provide marketing and sales for the condominiums. For more information visit [www.slofts.com](http://www.slofts.com).

## Those pesky loan costs and fees

The mortgage industry seems to be propelling the radio, television and print advertising industry afloat all by itself. Every other commercial we hear or see is promoting low cost or no cost mortgages and claiming they have the sweetest deal around.

To listen to some of these reports, one might be led to believe that all it takes is to find the right direct lender or mortgage broker and with your great credit score you can refinance your home and fix your adjustable rate mortgage and/or lower your payments and keep your principal at the same level as you started.

Of course the way that this is done is that the lender pays for all those third party fees that are part of the process. And, as we know they do not do this out of the goodness of their hearts.

People who do the work, the title and escrow officers, the appraisers, the underwriters, the document drawers, the processors and funders all want to be paid for the work they do. The lenders buy and sell interest rates based on the market price. In a favorable market, the

lenders can find rebate pricing from the market so that they can offer the "no cost loan."

The savvy mortgage shopper needs to know what those third party fees are and what is being paid out by the lender or mortgage broker.

Third-party costs apply to direct lenders as well as mortgage brokers. The direct lender will have people on staff that will appraise your property, underwrite and process your loan, some even have their own title and escrow in-house, but again, they have to pay these people.

**Appraisal fee:** Independent residential appraisers are state licensed professionals for single family homes and many get the additional credentials to appraise two to four units. As independent business people they set their own fees.

An owner-occupied single family home can range from \$350 to \$450 for homes below a million dollars and from \$475 to \$600 above a million dollars and for complicated custom homes. Investment properties have additional fees for rental

income surveys for the income approach to value.

**Credit report fees:** The usual fee for Residential Mortgage Credit Report, a tri-merge report from all three major credit bureaus (Experian, Equifax and TransUnion) will cost between \$18 and \$21. And as credit repair becomes more and more important as part of the transaction, additional fees must be absorbed by the lender or mortgage broker.

To remove inaccurate information from your credit report, it will cost the mortgage broker \$25 per entry per credit reporting bureau to remove it permanently from your credit report, and then an additional fee to rescure your credit.

**Escrow fee:** The unbiased third party who controls the paperwork between all the parties involved can be based on the loan amount, although some lenders and mortgage brokers can negotiate a base amount for refinances depending on the volume they bring to the escrow company. In Southern California where escrow companies are separate from the title companies, the competition can be fierce and

People who do the work, the title and escrow officers, the appraisers, the underwriters, the document drawers, the processors and funders all want to be paid for the work they do.

we have found rates as low as even for purchase transactions. In Northern California, escrow fees can range from \$1,800 (up to \$1,000,000 finance, higher for purchase).

See SENZIG, Page 3

## Nurture your nest egg while building your business

Your ideas are fresh, the plan is complete and you're ready to begin building your business. While your dreams of becoming an entrepreneur may seem to be right around the corner, consider the challenges before you leap too far.

On the road ahead, there could be financial uncertainty and loss, but even in the land of risk, debt and development, abandoning your nest egg is a mistake. While investing in your new business may be the first thing on your mind, don't forget about funding your future.

Establish balance by starting slow. You will never be able to nurture your nest egg if you are easily enticed by the fancy stuff. The last thing you need is a large overhead, so you may want to consider starting slow, perhaps working out of your home in the first few years and limiting the amount of equipment you buy. Research and development costs are inevitable, but remember, this process can be quite effective, even without the latest gadgets.

Diversify your assets. You should save for retirement separate from your business. Relying solely on the proceeds from the sale of your business down the road is a very risky strategy for retirement planning. The business cycle is quite unpredictable, so it is impossible to predict what someone will pay for it in the future.

Take advantage of the many ways you can grow your nest egg savings on a tax-deferred basis as well as reduce your personal taxes. Establishing an owner-only 401(k) plan may be a great place to start because this type of retirement plan is structured for those who want to increase their retirement savings while keeping plan administration costs low.

This is a good fit for the new entrepreneur because to establish this

type of retirement plan, the company cannot employ anyone other than owners and their spouses.

In 2006, an owner can make an employer contribution of up to 25 percent of his or her eligible compensation. In addition to his or her salary deferral contributions of \$15,000. An individual's eligible compensation cannot exceed \$220,000 for 2006.

All contributions have the potential to accumulate tax-deferred and salary deferrals decrease the owner's taxable income. It is important to remember that the combination of employer and employee contributions cannot exceed 100 percent of the owner's compensation or \$44,000.

Also, owners 50 or older can make an additional \$5,000 catch-up contribution for 2006.

Of course, this is just one retirement plan option to consider. The most important point is that you invest time and energy into your new business, while nurturing your nest egg just the same. In a time of increased competition and market volatility, you never know what the future may hold. Be prepared.

Contact your A.G. Edwards financial consultant who can help you establish a retirement plan for your financial future.

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Leila Gough is an Associate President with A.G. Edwards in Oakland. She can be reached at 510-452-8060.

## Rising inventory changes home-sale climate

■ Housing market flattening, but no crash  
BY CHUCK GREEN  
INMAN NEWS

Dustin and Rebecca Snook believe they could have listed their North Las Vegas home for more, but considering softening conditions, were prepared to compromise. The decision appears to be paying off.

After about only a month on the market, Dustin Snook said they received a full offer on their approximately 2,500-square-foot home, listed at \$475,000. "We thought we should probably go for \$75,000 more, but we bargained out what could be accomplished with the listing price. We had to go with a price that was reasonable for the time," said Dustin Snook, 34, who is self-employed.

That makes sense, considering National Association of Realtors senior forecast economist Lawrence Yun said that there are roughly 30 percent more homes for sale on the market now than this time last year. He attributes the slower demand primarily to rising interest rates and to those putting homes they own for investment purposes on the market to diversify away from real

estate.

According to the NAR, total existing-home sales — including single-family, townhomes, condominiums and co-ops — declined 2.8 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 6.56 million units in January from an upwardly revised pace of 6.75 million in December. Sales were 5.2 percent below the 6.92 million-unit level in January 2005.

While Yun expects the higher volume of inventory to continue through the year, he adds: "The shift in these markets is just moving away from the frenzied pace of 2005 and into a more healthy level of activity. Home buyers now have more choices. In 2005, because of multiple bidding, people were buying homes without inspections; it was hectic. While there is an inventory rise, it's within normal historic range."

In any event, many parts of the country are experiencing higher inventories. While noting the market there had been going at a torrid pace the past few years, Joan Psarros, an agent with the RE/MAX Realty Team in Cape Coral, Fla., said activity lately has been less than robust.

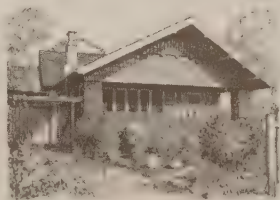
See CLIMATE, Page B4

Don't miss the Weekly Sales in the Auto Section starting on D4.

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## Estate Focus:

## Berkeley home has San Francisco views, three outdoor patios



**HOME AT 2970 SHASTA ROAD, Berkeley**, was featured on the cover of Sunset Magazine in 1949. The beautiful four-bedroom, two-bath home was designed by renowned architect Francis Joseph McCarthy, who also designed Stanford University Library, took advantage of the San Francisco Bay and the various usable outdoor areas. The house offers an open and inviting floor plan. Gable windows bring natural lighting into generous sized rooms. A beautiful brick patio with espaliered variegated vines on the exterior wall leads into a bright and sunny entry hall. The large family room has a fireplace on the built-in benches and walls of glass that open out to a private courtyard for wonderful indoor and outdoor living. A step-down living room has a unique corrugated and cement fireplace, built-in bookshelves. Large windows frame the San Francisco views. A third usable, private yard and patio is accessed from the downstairs.

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Listing agents: Tami Bobb and David Otero, Prudential California Realty. Tami: 510-919-127/www.TamiBobb.com and David: 510-869-4239, www.DavidOtero.com.

## Senzig

PAGE B3

There are also what we call escrow fees: No document drawing, wire, and delivery fees that can be another \$100 to \$200. **Insurance fee:** This very expensive and expensive fee is the owner (in a purchase) lender (both purchase and refinance) that the title is clear of encumbrances and that the loan is in proper position (as a second or third trust deed). Increase of fees are presently the title companies and approved and published in accordance with the Insurance Code of California. In a purchase, the owner's policy is based on purchase price and can be as much as \$800 to well over \$1,000. In a refinance, the lender's policy is also disallowed when closing concurrent with a new owner's policy, the range depending on the amount from about \$200 to \$400. In a refinance transaction, the lender's policy is based on the amount and can range from \$2,000 (up to \$1 million); above that they must get a quote. **Lenders, especially** specializing in home equity loans and second trust deeds, require a limited liability, which run between \$150 depending on the amount. **Escrowing fee:** Sometimes an application fee, this person has all of your information, processes the application, and are fully documenting the loan and assets, this person has those pay stubs,

W2's, income tax returns, bank statements and other important papers that make up your life and work and puts them in their proper order before it is submitted to the underwriter.

If you are applying for a Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac conforming loan (2006 conforming loan limits for a single family home is \$417,000), the processor will run your file electronically under Fannie Mae's Desk top Originator or Freddie Mac's Loan Prospector programs to get a preliminary electronic underwriting decision before being sent to the underwriting department. Usual processing fees run \$350 to \$600.

**Underwriting fee:** This is for that glassy-eyed person who tears through your application and paperwork and determines if you meet the requirement of the investors who are actually making the loan. Depending on the level of income and asset documentation and if the loan has a preliminary electronic decision or not, underwriting a loan can take an hour or three. Figure another \$250 for underwriting.

**Drawing and document fees:** These are the people that actually input all the data into all those papers you have to sign in escrow. With more and more lenders going to e-documents, delivery time has been expedited considerably (also known as same day docs). However, it still takes someone to do the work so add another \$200.

**Funding fee:** This department receives the signed and notarized package back from escrow and reviews the entire loan package for correct signatures, paperwork and sets the loan up for funding. The funder makes certain that all lender conditions have been satisfied and then puts the order in for the money to be sent to escrow. Add another \$200 for the funder.

**Broker's or salesperson's commission:** OK, I know the ads all say that if you go to a direct lender there are no broker fees but face it, somebody is getting paid. At most direct retail lenders, the loan officer's are commission only or have a small salary plus commission based on their production.

The direct lender sells its interest rates at a retail level. The mortgage broker buys the interest rates at a wholesale level and resells it at a retail level. The differential in the spread is how everybody gets paid, only the direct lender doesn't have to disclose to the borrower just what that spread is. The mortgage broker must disclose how much rebate is being paid to the broker and exactly what costs and fees are being paid by the broker and finally how much the broker is being paid.

The fees we discussed are only the non-recurring closing costs, they happen only one time and if you prefer a more favorable interest rate, can be financed over the life of the loan. To close the transaction, the borrower needs also to have their taxes and insurance up to date and will be responsible for the accrued interest on their old loan and the prepaid interest on the new loan. In a refinance, these "recurring closing costs" can either be financed or come directly out of your pocket. With the majority of purchases, they are an out-of-pocket expense.

In any case, no matter what type of lender you visit, it is your right to examine just how much money over the life of the loan that your no-cost loan is costing you.

Karen Senzig is co-owner of Montclair Mortgage with her husband Scott. She can be reached at 510-339-8511

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## A field trip to the 'good old days'

Number 486 in a series of true experiences in real estate

I had a near-perfect day recently beginning with a routine visit to my doctor in Orinda. The doctor was cheerful, my health, good.

Anet and I needed to do some shopping for a listing so we went to the Orinda hardware store. At the front window in this store is a model train layout which I had noticed before but I had not realized that anyone can run the trains. A platform raises the scene to eye level and there are a dozen buttons which can be pressed to cause things to move in the scene.

There were not many people in the store in mid-morning so, alone with the trains, we pushed all of the buttons, looked to see what each did. Several different trains run on different tracks, crossing signals flash and wag, a playground whirl-a-gig circles. We enjoyed ourselves.

Near the hardware store is our most favorite restaurant, Serika. Family-owned, serving Japanese food, we go for lunch as often as possible. But it was a little early yet, so we wandered into Sweet Dreams, a toy and candy store.

I bought a couple of Easter gifts for my kids and some gummy candy for ourselves, and got to Serika just at noon. Tempura, sushi and sashimi, plus their very-best anywhere miso soup and tea left us feeling on top of the world.

After lunch we returned phone calls and e-mails and attended to other business. All was well, everything was going along fine in real estate, everyone happy. Around 5 o'clock Anet said to me, "Tonight is the Sequoia School Dad's Club Variety Show. Do you want to go?"

Anet is from Granite City, Illinois. I've never been there so she hasn't shown me around her town or schools, whereas I'm from Oakland. I've told Anet countless stories about my childhood, taken her to my Sunday School church and to the neighborhoods and houses where I lived when I was growing up.

Sequoia School on Lincoln Avenue in Oakland was my elementary school. That was 50 years ago, and I don't believe I've been back inside the school since. Did Anet want to go back with me and see the Dad's Club show?

I told her that at least once when I was a student there, my family and I went to a Dad's Club talent show. It was so much fun. And I was curious to know if the inside of the school would look the same to me. Would the halls look small? What about the auditorium?

We did go. We walked up the several short flights of concrete stairs at the front of the school to the vestibule where the principal's office is, just as it was years ago.

It was bright and cheery and welcoming inside. Lots of people — families, little kids, probably teachers — were standing near the ticket table talking. The doors in the school room hallway were all closed at this time of night, but I could easily imagine them open, teachers standing at them greeting noisy kids. The floor in the hall is concrete with grooves in it making squares. I had forgotten about the floor, but the hallway length and width, and the stairs to the second story, all looked the same to me.

We gave our money and went through the double swinging doors into the old auditorium. I was practically breathless, I was so excited.

The auditorium is the same, not smaller. There are still circles painted on the shiny maple floor, there for kids to stand on and to walk or skip along during something called, in my day, rhythms.

Probably the circles have been repainted and in other ways the auditorium has been refurbished, it's been so long, but the paint color, velvet window and stage curtains, folding chairs and radiators all look as I remember them.

It was a good crowd. People were glad to be there, adults standing to talk to friends, kids wiggling in wait for the start of the show. Finally, it began, and it was great. The



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once had just the right deep announcing voice, plus an obvious pride in the performers and the school.

When the curtains opened there on stage were kindergartners, nine of them all dressed up, the little girls in ankle-length, fancy dresses. The group sang three short songs accompanied by a man playing guitar and by one of the kids on a set of drums.

A pretty lady teacher played piano. She wore a long, red velvet dress, and I thought how much I would have loved it when I was a kid that a teacher came in that dress.

The kids knew their material. They stood up straight, looked directly out through the lights into the auditorium, and not one of them missed a lyric.

I can't possibly tell how delighted we were with this performance - and all of the performers that followed. It felt good and clean and warm and friendly at the Dad's Club Variety Show. The applause was loud and enthusiastic. It was clear that everyone there was having a very good time.

At intermission, we floated along with the crowd into the cafeteria and Anet bought me a Sequoia Elementary School t-shirt. Cream-colored cotton, dark green lettering in a circle and, pictured in the center, the front of the school and its concrete stairs. So I have a souvenir.

It was a very good day.

Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpoft are residential real estate agents who can be reached at 653-2050 and at [www.tarpoftandtalbert.com](http://www.tarpoftandtalbert.com).

## High-end home sales show signs of fatigue

■ Alameda County holding steady; Contra Costa slowing down

ALAIN PINEL REALTORS

Sales of resale homes priced above \$1.5 million and \$2.5 million in some Northern California counties are showing signs of fatigue while others are holding steady, based on a first quarter report by Alain Pinel Realtors, which has 24 offices in the region and over 1,000 sales professionals.

According to public records gleaned from the leading multiple listing services in San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey, Contra Costa and Alameda counties, overall units of homes sold above \$2.5 million in the first quarter totaled 141 homes, compared with 150 homes sold in the same period a year ago — Jan. 1 to March 31.

Sales volume declined from \$580.71 million for the 150 homes in the first quarter 2005 to \$531.88 million this year, an 8 percent de-

cline. At the \$1.5 million to \$2.499 million level, 575 homes sold in the seven counties in the first quarter this year, compared with 646 homes sold in that price range in the first quarter 2005, an 11 percent drop. Sales volume fell from \$1.508 billion to \$1.344 billion, also approximately an 11 percent decline. The figures show, however, that sale prices in the upper end are holding steady and are in fact, comparable on a year-to-year basis.

There were 570 homes for sale above \$2.5 million at the end of the quarter, versus 490 at the end of March 2005, for a 16.5 percent increase in inventory. At \$1.5 million to \$2.499 million, inventory of homes listed for sale was up 11 percent, from 1,666 at the end of the first quarter 2005 to 1,870 homes in that price range by the close of the first quarter this year.

## Alameda County

The 36 homes offered for sale in Alameda County for more than \$2.5 million may be a little more special than the 36 homes for sale

at the end of the first quarter of 2005, because the listed median, or asking price, is up a considerable \$434,500, or 15.2 percent, from \$2.815 million at 1Q05 to \$3.25 million at the end of March this year.

That's the most likely explanation in the different asking price, because otherwise sales of upscale homes in Alameda were comparable to the same period a year ago.

Five homes in the county sold during the recent quarter for more than \$2.5 million, versus six homes a year ago. The median sale price was \$2.850 million, instead of \$2.725 million, for a slight gain of \$125,000.

The highest recorded price for a home sold in the county during the quarter was in Piedmont, for \$4.86 million. Inventory spiked for homes priced from \$1.5 million to \$2.499 million with 187 homes offered for sale compared with 142 homes on the market in this price range at the end of the first quarter 2005 — a 31 percent increase in inventory.

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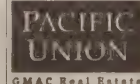
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## Climate

FROM PAGE B2

"We've been going gangbusters for the last four years, and now people are buying only when it's price correct," said Psaros, noting the market starts to cool on homes priced over \$1 million. "Homes used to sell right away and prices were going up monthly. Now sellers are getting their home ready for the market and are pricing them based on what the market will bear."

Likewise, Allyson Hoffman, an agent with RE/MAX North, in Northbrook, Ill., said she is "definitely seeing a trend in growing inventory, longer marketing times and more price reductions." Hoffman attributes these conditions "to the general softening of the economy coupled with the higher trending (interest) rate push."

The Las Vegas market, meanwhile, is reported to be "stabilizing" by Linda Rheinberger, president of the Greater Las Vegas Association of Realtors. She acknowledged current conditions are a "re-education" for many home sellers accustomed to a more aggressive market. In terms of pricing, she noted sellers must be realistic. "You have to look at the market and at your competition and position your home accordingly."

In California, while she said the market hasn't rebounded as strongly as last year, Donna Baker, an agent with Dickson Podley Realtors in Monrovia, believes it's gathering steam. "I saw a slow down in the market starting in late October of last year, but I think it's starting to pick up. It happened the same way the previous year: things seemed to go to sleep in October and in January, and it picked back up. This year, that didn't happen until now. It was a little sluggish."

She believes one reason is the uncertainty created by the resignation of Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan. "People were afraid things were going to go crazy and didn't make any moves. I'm sure things will come back, but I don't think prices will skyrocket like before. I don't think sellers have gone away; they've just gotten a kick of reality."

Indeed, with home prices in California projected to rise about 10 percent in 2006, compared with 16 percent a year ago, Robert Kleinhenz, deputy chief economist for the California Association of Realtors, said sellers must heed the market when pricing their home. But that doesn't mean the balance has tilted in favor of buyers, he added. "We're in a market with a higher inventory level than a year ago and much higher than two years ago but it's still lean enough to continue to drive price appreciation."

At the same time, Yun said the NAR expects new-home construction to drive downward — by roughly 10 percent in 2006 to around 1.9 million, compared with 2.1 million housing starts in 2005. "The decline isn't insignificant, but it's not real significant. Historically, 1.9 million is on the higher end. The housing market was moving at about 80 mph, now it's slowing to 65 mph, which is a good speed."

For their own good, Dustin Snook and his wife knew they had to consider the big picture.

"I guarantee, if we listed for \$75,000 more, we probably would have sat quite some time, Dustin said."

## The drama of buying a first house

BY ALAN J. HEAVENS  
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Even clowns were buying houses, so Maria Moller knew it was time for her to buy one.

Those clowns were of the red-nose, floppy-shoe variety, part of the circle of theater folk the Philadelphia actress hangs out with.

"When clowns can buy houses, you are looking at an interesting real estate market," said Moller, who has a master of fine arts degree from Temple University, and spent seven years honing her acting skills in Chicago before returning to Philadelphia and its burgeoning theater scene.

As this year's artist-in-residence at the New Edge theater series at Community Education Center in West Philadelphia, Moller will bring her home-buying experiences to the stage this weekend in "House to House," a solo performance that employs a variety of media to tell her real estate story.

That story includes Moller's reaction to her parents' sale of the Glenside, Pa., house she had grown up in, as well as the experiences of her friends, whose voices will emanate from speakers hidden in stage props during the play.

"I joined that tribe of homeowners and first-time buyers," Moller said. "But while my experience as a buyer was relatively easy, that's not been the case for many of my friends."

Not all of them were artists, either. One of the disembodied voices will be that of Todd Schwartz, a probation officer who also is heavily involved in the restoration of the Boyd Theater.

"I started looking two years ago, and the first year was hell," Schwartz said in an interview. "I was involved in bidding wars, tried to find houses I could afford in decent neighborhoods, and finally got so tired of it I stopped for awhile."

In March 2005, he resumed his search, finally settling on a house in South Philadelphia.

"I was looking at a for-sale-by-owner when the guy from across

the street talked me into looking at his house, which he had rehabbed and was planning to put on the market," Schwartz said. "My parents were with me, and didn't like the first house."

The sale price of this place was a couple of thousand dollars higher, but it was a better house. Taking some of the sting out of the bigger price tag was a 5.3 percent, 30-year fixed mortgage with no points.

"I didn't like the process, but I do like the house," said Schwartz, who is about to add a half-bath and make other improvements.

Anthony M. Santaniello, a city planner and friend of Schwartz's, is another one of those voices "out of the box," as Moller put it.

Santaniello ended up with the house Schwartz had been looking at before being lured across the street. He moved in mid-December.

"I'm feeling a little better about it, but that's because I've just gutted the second floor, and did it myself," he said. "There's something very satisfying and therapeutic about going after something with a sledgehammer."

The process involved more pain — the lender never returned calls, and the lawyer handling his transaction did the same.

"As a first-time homeowner, you're nervous enough, but when no one will answer your questions, it makes it worse," Santaniello said.

If you think turning home-buying into theater is a big stretch, you don't know real estate.

"Every home is a different stage, and every buyer is a different audience," said Bari Shor, an agent with Prudential Fox & Roach in Philadelphia's Center City neighborhood who once aspired to being an actress and remains a big fan of films and theater.

"My job is to match people to a house," Shor said. "Today, they call it 'staging,' but whatever you call it, you are trying to elicit an emotional response from the audience — in this case, the buyer — just like an actor in the theater."

"The goal: good reviews," Shor said.



ACTRESS MARIA MOLLER shows off her new home in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She plays, "House to House," about her home-buying experience.

For Moller, finding a house three years ago — something that took her seven days in the hottest part of the recent real estate market — was a Three Bears-type experience that, when scripted, sounds a little like the creation story in Genesis.

"On the third day, I saw three houses," she tells the audience. "I saw a house with shag carpets that smelled like cat pee. I saw the house where the owners were mean, young yuppies. I saw a house with a family of six in it that seemed too small for just me."

On the sixth day, "I saw my house. It had just come on the market, and I was the first person to see it. On the seventh day, I made a full-price offer."

A decision Moller said she has never regretted. Her joy is tempered by the sadness she feels about her parents' decision to sell the Glenside house, which they bought when she was 4.

On stage, she shows fading photographs of her with that house, talking about its neo-Gothic style and its 24 windows, and how her parents wanted to live in Jenkintown, Pa., but found the house in a newspaper ad and lived there for 32 years.

Although Ida, the previous owner of Moller's house, died the year before Moller first saw it, there's a bond between the two women that the actress explores

in her play. The play's Ida is partly real — her son, Mario, and longtime next-door neighbor, Tony, provided information about her. But Moller acknowledges that she used her imagination to fill in some of the blanks.

From her neighbors, Moller learned that Ida was much loved by everyone, and that the love extended to how the older woman cared for her house.

"There are lots of houses in South Philly that have glitter paint and popcorn ceilings," Moller said. "But because Ida lived in the house from age 24 to five months before her death at 94, there are original hardwood floors on the first floor, terrazzo floors in the kitchen, and mirrors and glass knobs on the doors."

In a word, it was almost original, with a few things — like Pepto-Bismol-pink colors and cracked stucco walls on the first floor — that needed to be changed.

"Maria was lucky," Santaniello said. "But I'm an architect, and I've lived in really great apartments, so my standards are too high."

Ida's husband, Luigi, had a desk in the corner of the basement with an ancient radio on top of it. The house also was filled with original furniture, much of it painted. Moller uses some pieces as props in her play.

Homeownership is a neighborhood, too. A well-established neighborhood in Philadelphia tends to be tight-knit, and newcomers are often treated with suspicion or kept at arm's length.

"There is some of the people are generally very friendly," Moller said. "I feel safe."

And they're helpful. "I'm a trustee. My storm door was broken and I was about to call a person, but when I came one evening it had been said. 'I had my next-door neighbor tell me who had done it. I would have never known it.'"

Moller's play is high on the list of things to do in Philadelphia, and because it's a solo performance, it requires a lot of and motion.

Daniel L. Scholnick, a designer, shares the enthusiasm about homeownership.

"I just bought a house in Kensington that I'm moving into live/work space for me," he said. "The last building made plastic for me and I'm trying to figure out how to do the same work that into the same building."

Director Kathryn Teller, founder of the dance company Workshop for Performance, is helping Moller with choreography for her play. "I'm a renter," Teller said with a smile.

## There's no question: Owning a home just makes sense

BY JEFF BROWN  
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Question: I am 26 years old, engaged, and currently renting an apartment. I make \$60,000 a year. Can I afford to buy a house, or is it crazy to even think of that at this point?

Answer: It's not crazy at all. In fact, owning your own home is a good long-term financial goal. But there are some questions to answer in deciding whether this is the best time.

To skip ahead a second: How much home could you afford?

As a general rule, home buyers are limited to mortgages that require monthly payments no greater than 28 percent of their gross income, which is what one makes before taxes are deducted. The payment includes interest, taxes and insurance as well as principal, which is the portion of the loan repaid each month.

Making \$5,000 a month, you could afford a monthly payment of about \$1,400. With a 30-year, fixed-rate loan charging a little over 6 percent — the going rate these days — you could borrow nearly \$220,000 and have a \$1,400 payment.

This assumes you don't have any other debts. Lenders usually don't want the borrower's total payments for mortgage, car and student loans, credit card bills and other debts to come to more than 36 percent of one's income.

Obviously, if you and your fiancée pool your money, you can afford a bigger mortgage. Try the tools at [www.dinkytown.net](http://www.dinkytown.net).

Over the long term, owning a home does make financial sense. With a fixed-rate mortgage, your monthly principal and interest payments will stay the same for the life of the loan — usually 15 to 30 years, unless you sell the prop-

erty or pay the debt off sooner.

Though taxes and homeowner's insurance costs will likely go up over time, principal and interest are the biggest part of the payment. So your total housing cost would take an ever-smaller share of your income, assuming you earn more as the years go by.

Also, the interest portion of the monthly payment will be deductible on your federal income tax return.

With a \$1,400 payment, about \$1,100 would be interest during the first year.

If your tax rate is 25 percent, this deduction would save you \$275 a month in income tax. In effect, your monthly payment would be \$1,125, not \$1,400. (Property tax is also deductible; insurance payments are not.)

Compare all this to renting. There's no tax deduction for renters. And rent is likely to go up

year after year, while the lion's share of a mortgage payment would stay the same.

Also, homeowners gradually build equity, or monetary value, as they pay down their debt and their homes go up in value. As an owner, you'd be likely to have hundreds of thousands of dollars in equity in 10 or 20 years. As a renter, you'd have none.

On the other hand, renters usually don't have the maintenance and repair costs that homeowners face. And renters don't live with the cost and hassle of selling when they want to move.

Selling a home usually entails paying a real estate agent's commission of 5 percent or 6 percent of the home's sales price.

If you think you'd want to move in five years or less, renting might well be cheaper. This is a subject to explore with your fiancée. The dinkytown site also has calcula-

tors for comparing the cost of owning versus renting. You might shop around to see if there are appealing homes in your range. Look at the homes by the National Association of Realtors at [www.realtor.com](http://www.realtor.com).

Is this a good time to buy?

Sure — assuming you're planning to move in just a few years. Mortgage rates are at a low by historical standards.

Home prices may be rising at the torrid rates of a few years, but if you plan to stay in your home for five or 10 years, I wouldn't worry too much about losing money.

Over the long haul, it's better than renting.

Jeff Brown is a columnist for The Philadelphia Inquirer. Send him an e-mail at [brownj@phillynews.com](mailto:brownj@phillynews.com).

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# Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries

## ON THE PUBLIC

**Web.** Consumers can find a wealth of information on the Internet. It's a great first step in finding out just about everything to do with real estate. Here's a site I've visited and thought you might like too. The California Association of Realtors website is geared to agents, has a lot of valuable information for the consumer. If you are looking for an agent, click on "Find A Realtor." The "Property Locator" shows what's for sale. The feature "Consumer Tips" has a lot of information. Multi-Lingual Resources, and The American Dream and Go. [www.car.org](http://www.car.org).

## Monet

From stained glass to Victorian classics, the Alameda Museum provides lectures for everyone who loves homes. Attend "Our Houses" in Alameda. Prominent Bay area authors and historians narrate the slide lectures. The artist Claude Monet lived in France in the late 1800s, but author Colette Collette promises he would have loved owning a home in Alameda during that historical period. Join her for a presentation, 7 p.m., Thursday, May 18. For lecture information call 510-748-0796.

## Open

It's a mega Open House! All types of homes will be shown at the last weekend of the Coldwell Banker National Open House Month. "Open Houses work well be-

cause they create a 'buzz' and draw prospective buyers to a home on the market," said Avram Goldman, Coldwell Banker President and CEO. Prospective homebuyers can [www.CaliforniaMoves.com](http://www.CaliforniaMoves.com).

## Catellus

The public is always welcome at the Inform Meeting sponsored by the Alameda Association of Realtors. The meeting is 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 2, at the Garden Isle Community Center on Melrose Avenue in Alameda. The topic is Catellus. Agents are encouraged to bring information on new listings. For ticket information contact **Dee Ostrosky** of AAR at 510-523-7229.

## Free Classes

**Cyber Chats.** Do you like to shop online? The Internet is a growing real estate marketplace. If you

would like to learn the ins and outs of buying and selling, join in on the monthly Q & A session with the Real Estate Consulting Center. Register for the May meeting [www.realestateconsultingcenter.com](http://www.realestateconsultingcenter.com). **Seniors.** Senior Citizens needing additional income should consider a reverse mortgage. This reverse mortgage seminar helps you decide if this option is right for you. The free class is at Bayridge Realty & Financial, 1:30 to 3 p.m., Saturday, April 29. The presenter is reverse mortgage specialist **Derry Hampton** with real estate broker Steve Zager as host. RSVP by calling 510-524-3333 x301.

**Home Dream.** "Realizing Your Homeownership Dream" is a workshop presented by Realtors **Lexi Durst** and **Nicole Bailey** of Claremont Prudential Realty, in Berkeley. Learn about down payment programs. **Linda McChristian** of Bank of America offers attendees an initial credit report. Call for dates at 510-287-8755.

**Choices.** Realtor **Jonathan Fleming** of RE/Max in Castro Valley conducts several workshops for home sellers and buyers. "First Homes: Helping The Helpers" offers public service employees such as firefighters, nurses and police officers, special programs. "Retire-



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ment Home Selling Options" provides an understanding of home sales today and estate planning. Call for dates at 888-681-7771.

## Guidebook

The 2006 McCormack's Guides are available. These relocation/newcomer guidebooks are more than a directory. The books are loaded with information such as academic

See REID, Page B6

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## Reid

FROM PAGE B5

rankings for local public schools. SAT scores for local high schools, city profiles and directories of hospitals and private schools. Want to know where to go and what to do? It's in the Guide. Buy 10 or more for a savings of over 50 percent. For costs and order information call 1-800-222-3602.

## OAR EVENTS

■ The Oakland Association of Realtors offers members an ounce of prevention. Health screenings will be available Tuesday, May 2 at OAR. For information regarding appointments and costs call 877-487-7324.

■ The Oakland Association of Realtors presents "Lead Paint in the Home - The Hazards and Removal Process" with David Crosby of the Alameda County Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. Learn about the dangers of lead paint and which homes may have lead paint. Hear about free services and funding available to property owners. Learn about lead, 10 a.m. to noon, Friday, May 5, at the OAR Mary Walton Williams Auditorium. RSVP to this free to members event at [www.OAR.org](http://www.OAR.org).

## NAR-CAR

■ All Realtors are invited to the National Association of Realtors Midyear Legislative Meetings & Trade Expo in Washington DC. This annual event addresses legislative and political issues facing the industry. The meetings and Trade Expo are May 15 to 20. Register at [www.Realtor.org](http://www.Realtor.org).

■ The NAR Annual Realtors Conference & Expo is Nov. 10 to 13 in New Orleans. The next California Association of Realtors Business Meeting is in June, in Sacramento. The CAR Realtor Expo is scheduled Oct. 17 to 19 in Long Beach. Reservation information is [www.car.org](http://www.car.org).

## PRESENTATION

Do you need a formal presentation? Attend the "Listing Presentation Class," presented by veteran business coach and trainer **Kitty Cole**. Cole teaches how to create personal listing presentation and marketing plan. This program is viable for agents of all experience levels. Get the confidence you need to get the listing. For a date and location near you call 925-254-1900 or send e-mail to [kittybiz@aol.com](mailto:kittybiz@aol.com).

## BOBBIE HEARS

■ **Bobbie Reid**, this columnist and the author of *Clueless: Real So-*

lutions For Men Who Don't Get It And The Women Who Love Them is passing out advice again. She is quoted in the "Cosmo For Your Guy" column, page 62, in the April issue of *Cosmopolitan* magazine. [www.BobbieReid.com](http://www.BobbieReid.com) for more about the book.

■ **Berkeley Realtor Ira Serkes** of RE/Max Executive is of the computer guru status. That's why his expertise is in demand. He has recently been on panels at Inman Real Estate Connect and the Allen Hainge CyberStar Conference. Only 200 out of over a million agents meet the qualifications to be chosen as a CyberStar. Visit the website of Ira and Carol Serkes at [www.berkeleyhomes.com](http://www.berkeleyhomes.com).

## LET'S TALK?

Tell me about it! Real estate related fundraisers, meetings, workshops, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company). Information deadline is two weeks before the event. Send an email to [bobbierid@mindspring.com](mailto:bobbierid@mindspring.com).

**DON'T MISS THE WEEKLY SALES IN THE AUTO SECTION ON D4.**

## Median home price at \$561,350 up 13 percent from year ago

■ Sales decrease 15.1 percent, compared to this time last year

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

The median price of an existing home in California increased 13 percent in March and sales decreased 15.1 percent compared with the same period a year ago, according to the California Association of Realtors (C.A.R.).

"March is the month in which we typically see the market gear up for peak season activity, and this year is no exception," said C.A.R. President Vince Malta. "Seasonally adjusted statewide sales increased 4.9 percent compared with February and the statewide median rose 4.8 percent compared with the prior month. This is very similar to March 2005, when sales rose 4.4 percent month-to-month and the median price registered a 5.5 percent increase."

"The level of sales activity remained below the record-setting levels that occurred over the last

two years, but the pace of sales appears to be picking up," he said. "Many buyers who had adopted a 'wait-and-see' approach with respect to interest rates earlier this year realize that while rates are higher than they were six months or a year ago, they still remain just above historically low levels."

Closed escrow sales of existing, single-family detached homes in California totaled 539,170 in March at a seasonally adjusted annualized rate, according to information collected by C.A.R. from more than 90 local Realtor associations statewide. Statewide home resale activity decreased 15.1 percent from the 634,700 sales pace recorded in March 2005.

The statewide sales figure represents what the total number of homes sold during 2006 would be if sales maintained the March pace throughout the year. It is adjusted to account for seasonal factors that typically influence home sales.

The median price of an existing, single-family detached home in California during March 2006 was

## HIGHEST MEDIAN PRICES

Laguna Beach, \$1,827,000  
Burlingame, \$1,720,000  
Beverly Hills, \$1,665,000  
Los Altos, \$1,628,000  
Manhattan Beach, \$1,625,000  
Newport Beach, \$1,520,000  
Coronado, \$1,463,750  
Saratoga, \$1,391,000  
Los Gatos, \$1,300,000  
Calabasas, \$1,259,500

\$561,350, a 13 percent increase over the revised \$496,000 for March 2005. C.A.R. noted the March 2006 median increased 4.8 percent compared with February's revised \$538,000 median price.

"The inventory of homes fell from a 6.6 month supply in February to 4.8 months in March," C.A.R. Vice President said.

See REPORT, Page B1

open  
sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Flexibility abounds in the gracious and well-maintained mid-century contemporary in a lush wooded setting with Bay view. Just steps to Montclair village, this Four bedroom, three + bath home boasts duel master suites, home office, grand living room, formal dining room, indoor B-B-Q and attached two-car garage. Offered at \$1,195,000



6353 Wood Drive  
Piedmont Side of Montclair

JULIE GARDNER

Office: 510.339.0400/264  
[jgardner@grubbco.com](mailto:jgardner@grubbco.com)

The GRUBB Co.  
REALTORS  
GRUBBCO.COM

sold  
sold

Located in the heart of Glenview this two bedroom, one bath bungalow offers the best in urban living with vintage hardwood floors, spectacular natural light, fireplace, built-ins, dining room, eat-in kitchen, gardens plus a two-car garage/workshop. Originally offered at \$649,000



1163 El Centro Avenue  
Glenview

ANNE FESTE

Represented the Seller

Office: 510.339.0400/371  
[afeste@grubbco.com](mailto:afeste@grubbco.com)

The GRUBB Co.  
REALTORS  
GRUBBCO.COM

Established 1976

## RED OAK REALTY | Homes Open Sunday

To sign up for daily email updates or for other Real Estate information, visit [www.redoakrealty.com](http://www.redoakrealty.com).

RED OAK  
REALTY

1891 SOLANO AVENUE  
BERKELEY, CA 94707  
PHONE: 510-527-3387

2983 COLLEGE AVENUE  
BERKELEY, CA 94705  
PHONE: 510-849-9990

2099 PLEASANT VALLEY  
OAKLAND, CA 94611  
PHONE: 510-292-2000

[www.redoakrealty.com](http://www.redoakrealty.com)

BERKELEY - NEW! \$769,000  
4/3 - Fabulous 4-year old home in thriving "Left Bank" neighborhood. Designer kitchen, gleaming wood floors. [www.heidandjerry.com](http://www.heidandjerry.com)  
1127 Bancroft Way Open 2-4



BERKELEY - NEW! \$799,000  
4/3 - Spacious & sunny home with income producing units below. Sparkling & gorgeous. Vacant at close of escrow.  
2439 Roosevelt Avenue Open 2-4:30



RICHMOND - NEW! \$925,000  
2/1.5 - Boater's dream! Live on the water in Brickyard Cove with your own private boat dock. [www.katieandmark.com](http://www.katieandmark.com)  
1310 Mallard Drive Open 1-4



ALBANY - NEW! \$579,000  
3/1 - Fixer in great location. New interior paint & refinished wood floors. Detached garage. Lovely backyard. Near school & park  
1465 Portland Avenue Open 1-4



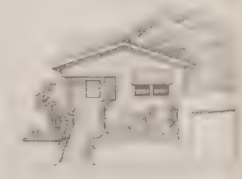
BERKELEY - NEW! \$995,000  
3+2.5 - Beautiful, well-maintained, large home in prime location with sunroom, cozy study, lovely gardens. Near Solano Avenue.  
1864 Capistrano Avenue Open 1:30-4:30



BERKELEY \$1,199,000  
TRIPLEX - Rare, Julia Morgan brown shingle. Vacant units with coved ceilings, fireplaces, redwood paneling, hardwood floors, views.  
73-77 Panoramic Way Open 2-4



RICHMOND \$439,000  
2/1 - Glorious, restored Berkeley-style vintage bungalow. Hardwood floors, formal dining room, tile pedestal sink, large yard. Near Clinton Hill.  
3228 Clinton Avenue Open 1-4



KENSINGTON - NEW! \$389,000  
2/1 - Great, charming fixer bungalow near Colusa Circle. Hardwood floors, separate living room, detached garage.  
419 Colusa Avenue Open 1-4



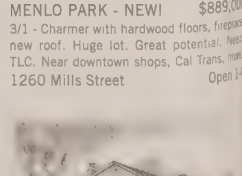
OAKLAND \$357,000-\$375,000 each  
6 LOFTS - In a very cool warehouse conversion with mezzanines, stained concrete, marble, skylights & more! [www.saragarabedian.com](http://www.saragarabedian.com)  
2201 West Street Open 2-4



OAKLAND - NEW! \$499,000  
3/2 - Sun-filled Spanish style home with fabulous new kitchen, fireplace, hardwood floors, tiled patio, garage, workshop, indoor laundry.  
3145 Texas Street Open 2-4



RICHMOND - NEW! \$699,000  
3/2.5 - Spacious custom built home. Kitchen & bathroom updated with quality materials. Huge family room opens to backyard.  
5200 Gordon Avenue Open 2-4:30



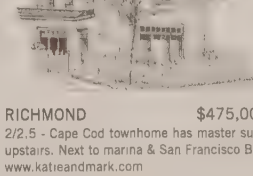
MENLO PARK - NEW! \$889,000  
3/1 - Charming with hardwood floors, freestanding new roof. Huge lot. Great potential. Near TLC. Near downtown shops, Cal Trans, more.  
1260 Mills Street Open 1-4



OAKLAND \$505,000  
2/1 - Charming updated bungalow. Period details, fireplace, hardwood floors throughout, formal dining room, and many upgrades.  
5326 Trask Street Open 2-4



OAKLAND \$899,000  
5/4 - Beautiful home on 4 floors, over 4,000 sq.ft. living space & income potential! Bay views, fireplace, remodeled kitchen, updated baths.  
8801 Skyline Boulevard Open 2-4



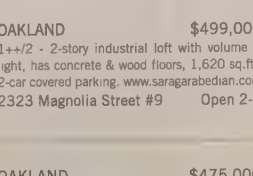
RICHMOND \$475,000  
2/2.5 - Cape Cod townhome has master suite upstairs. Next to marina & San Francisco Bay. [www.katieandmark.com](http://www.katieandmark.com)  
621 Commodore Drive Open 1-4



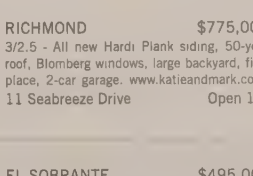
EL CERRITO - NEW! \$569,000  
2/1 - Delightful home in popular St. James neighborhood. Spacious rooms, great light, large yard, detached garage. [www.heidandjerry.com](http://www.heidandjerry.com)  
146 Pomona Avenue Open 2-4



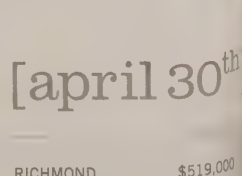
OAKLAND \$439,000  
LOFT - Sunwashed with private garden, mezzanine, stainless steel kitchen, skylights, secure parking. [www.saragarabedian.com](http://www.saragarabedian.com)  
2323 Magnolia Street #1 Open 2-4



OAKLAND \$499,000  
1+1/2 - 2-story industrial loft with volume & light, has concrete & wood floors, 1,620 sq.ft., 2-car covered parking. [www.saragarabedian.com](http://www.saragarabedian.com)  
2323 Magnolia Street #9 Open 2-4



RICHMOND \$775,000  
3/2.5 - All new Hardi Plank siding, 50-year roof, Blomberg windows, large backyard, fireplace, 2-car garage. [www.katieandmark.com](http://www.katieandmark.com)  
11 Seabreeze Drive Open 1-4



EL SOBRANTE \$495,000  
2/2 - Charming La Colina home has spacious family room, hardwood floors, large rear yard, attached garage. Close to shopping.

by appointment

BERKELEY \$959,000  
5/3 - Striking Contemporary with cook's kitchen, Japanese garden, panoramic Bay views. [www.heidandjerry.com](http://www.heidandjerry.com)

OAKLAND \$475,000  
TOWNHOME - Newly constructed duet-style three-story, 3-bedroom unit with open kitchen plan and private, fenced backyard.

RICHMOND \$519,000  
2/1 - Charming bungalow. Fresh paint, hardwood floors, fireplace, Spanish tile in kitchen, backyard, gazebo.

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY  
30 YEARS  
1976-2006



[april 30th]



Keeping track of the latest reale estate activity? Don't miss the Weekly Sales in the Auto Section on D4.

NEW LISTING!

## Oakland Hills Custom Craftsman



### Forever Views on Huckleberry Ridge

Nestled on a knoll above Montclair with astonishing, panoramic views sits this exceptional approximately 3,446 sq. ft. Jarvis Architects designed home built in 2000. This special property combines Craftsman-style charm and quality with 5 bedrooms, 4 baths on three levels providing an ideal separation of space. The floor plan can be both casual and formal all within a stylish space suited well for comfortable living or entertaining. The property enjoys lush landscaping by 'Planet Horticulture' viewed easily from the decks, patios and pathways as well as the master bedroom retreat's own covered observation deck. Discover the beauty of this inspired setting!

**\$1,450,000**

**CLARK THOMPSON**  
REAL ESTATE BROKER

VILLAGE ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE  
925-254-8585

View all area listings online

[www.clarkthompson.com](http://www.clarkthompson.com)



: Leverette Company Presents :

Open Sunday  
2 - 4:30



**655 Aileen St. Oakland**

Offered at \$595,000

An Adorable Craftsman bungalow with a deep  
backyard. 2 bedrooms 1 bath plus a sunroom.

**Marlene Leverette**  
(510) 883-1895

[www.leveretteco.com](http://www.leveretteco.com)



Leverette Company Realtors 2920 Domingo Ave. Suite 207 Berkeley 94705

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30



### Oakmore Tudor

Charm, style, space and light  
all combine in this updated  
2++ bedroom/1.5 bath home.  
Featuring a dramatic living  
room, formal dining, a  
marvelous master bedroom,  
bonus space for a possible 3rd  
bedroom and French doors  
opening to a splendid, level  
park-like backyard.  
Conveniently located near  
shopping and transportation.

**4107 Lyman Road**  
Offered at: \$739,000

**Kriss "Krissto" Makris**  
(510) 339-9290 Office  
(925) 250-4079 Cell



## RED OAK REALTY

### Albany Fixer



**1465 PORTLAND AVENUE, ALBANY**

This 3 bedroom, 1 bath Albany fixer-upper is in an awesome location, only  
two blocks to Memorial Park, Albany High School, Solano Avenue and Safeway.  
Also included is a detached garage, new interior paint, refinished wood  
floors & a lovely backyard with great potential. LISTED AT \$579,000

OPEN SUNDAYS, APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup> & MAY 7<sup>TH</sup> 1-5PM

**Robin Kingsbury, Realtor®**

DIRECT: 510-932-3538 EMAIL: [Robin@redoakrealty.com](mailto:Robin@redoakrealty.com)

Established  
1976



**RED OAK  
REALTY**

1891 Solano Avenue  
Berkeley, CA 94707

## RED OAK REALTY

### Luxury of Three SENIORS REAL ESTATE SPECIALISTS

-Seniors Helping Seniors-

Just Listed

Just Sold



**1864 CAPISTRANO AVE.  
BERKELEY**

3+ Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths  
LISTED AT: \$995,000  
OPEN SUNDAY: 4/30 & 5/7

Seller relocating  
to retirement residence



**2025 PRINCE ST.  
BERKELEY**

3 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths  
LISTED AT: \$798,000  
SOLD FOR: \$840,000

Seller moved  
to be near to grandchildren

**Edna Olmstead, Virginia Jones, Judy Boe, SRES**

DIRECT: 510-280-2165 WEBSITE: [www.RedOakRealty.com](http://www.RedOakRealty.com)

## RED OAK REALTY



**146 POMONA AVENUE, EL CERRITO**

Come home to this delightful 2 bedroom with spacious rooms, great light, nice  
yard & detached garage for workshop or art studio. Popular St. Jerome's neighbor-  
hood near BART, El Cerrito Plaza & Solano Avenue. LISTED AT \$569,000

OPEN SUNDAY, APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup> 2-4PM



**1127 BANCROFT WAY, BERKELEY**

Only 4 years old! Room for everyone in this fabulous, architect designed 4 bed-  
room, 3 bath home. Designer kitchen and gleaming wood floors. Thriving "Left  
Bank" shops and restaurants nearby. LISTED AT \$769,000

OPEN SUNDAY, APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup> 2-4PM

**Heidi & Jerry Long, Realtors®**

DIRECT: 510-835-6218 WEBSITE: Photo tours @ [www.heidiandjerry.com](http://www.heidiandjerry.com)

Established  
1976



**RED OAK  
REALTY**

[www.redoakrealty.com](http://www.redoakrealty.com)

1891 Solano Avenue  
Berkeley, CA 94707

## RED OAK REALTY

### Unique Opportunity!



### CLARK PLACE, EL CERRITO

Both parcels offer sweeping views of the Bay, Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco  
cityscape & Marin Headlands. Combined at 2+ acres these lots are offered  
individually but may be purchased together to create a unique development  
opportunity hard to replicate in the area. Parcel maps available upon request.

#### PARCEL 1

- 26,000 sq. ft parcel
- 2 separate parcel #'s
- Flat sites for building

LISTED AT: \$1,495,000

#### PARCEL 2

- 63,400 sq. ft parcel
- 3 separate parcel #'s
- Includes 2 flat parcels

LISTED AT: \$2,100,000

CONTACT EXCLUSIVE AGENT

**Robin Kingsbury, Realtor®**

DIRECT: 510-932-3538 EMAIL: [Robin@redoakrealty.com](mailto:Robin@redoakrealty.com)



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text and photo to: ljessup@cctimes.com

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

COMING SOON

BRAND NEW! With spectacular San Francisco, Golden Gate and bay views, this dramatic NEW Phil Perkins designed five+ bedrooms, four and one-half bath contemporary gracefully blends modern art style with comfortable casual living. Featuring magnificent living and dining areas with huge terraces, state-of-the-art kitchen and media rooms, au-pair suite, and home office. Over 4000 square feet of luxury at the top of Clairmont Hills



Fritz Hochfellner

510.338.1348

7111 Norfolk Road  
Offered at \$2,495,000

www.fritzsellshomes.com

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

COMING SOON! 55 Oakwood Drive, Orinda



Classic Orinda ranch-style home conveniently located just minutes from downtown yet tucked away at the end of a cul-de-sac on over 1.5 acres of useable property. This serene & secluded setting, with views of the Orinda hills, is surrounded by Heritage Oaks, Redwoods, Japanese Maples and fruit trees. Level-in with formal living room, dining room, separate play room, 4BR, 2BA.



Nancy Rothman

510.339.2169 x 6209

Price Upon Request

www.NancyRothman.com

www.pacunion.com

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

JUST SOLD

I am delighted to have represented the SELLERS of this distinctive Piedmont property.

If you are considering a move, please give me a call. Let my 28 years of experience in our Piedmont/Oakland Hills market work for you.



Robyn Mohr

510.338.1310

128 Indian Road



Listed at \$ 4,980,000

robyn@robynmoehr.com

www.pacunion.com

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2-4:30PM

This is the quintessential 3 bedroom Brown Shingle, on one of Rockridge's most coveted, tree-lined streets! The living room, dining room, & book-lined study all retain the beautiful, natural wood built-ins of this beloved vintage. The updated kitchen, breakfast area, & spacious family room are graced by french doors leading to the sunny deck, lawn, & garden. Both full bathrooms have been remodeled with designer fixtures & finishes!



Offered at \$1,050,000



Lorri Arazi

510.338.1330

5836 Lawton Avenue, Rockridge

www.LorriArazi.com

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2-4:30PM



FABULOUS SAN FRANCISCO BAY AND MARIN VIEWS! Wonderful Traditional rebuilt after the "Big Storm." Great construction, detail and craftsmanship. This home has been put into this home. Fabulous garden with waterfall and ponds designed by Landscape Architect Harland Hand. 4+BA, master bedroom with fireplace, rec room with fireplace & Harriett-style soda fountain. Separate library and sizable au-pair, sports court.



Upper Rockridge

Francis Heath

510.338.1357

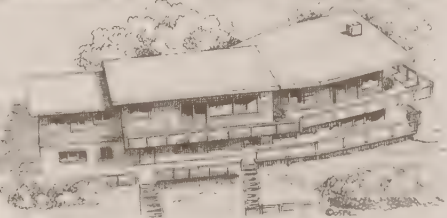
5935 Manchester Avenue  
Offered at \$2,500,000

www.pacunion.com

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2-5PM



2808 Hilgard Avenue, North Berkeley



Gini Erck

510.338.1339

PRICE SLASHED \$200,000!! Bring your skills and vision to this unique hillside fixer with strong bones, enormous potential, coveted Northside neighborhood, and spectacular views from every room. 3BR, 2BA, plus 2 room au pair lair. New lift proposal available. View SeeMore tour at www.pacunion.com/ginierck

Offered at \$995,000

gerck@pacunion.com

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate



37 Sharon Avenue, Piedmont  
Offered at \$1,895,000



Georgia Cornell

510.338.1325

Charming central Piedmont colonial with San Francisco/Bay views. Elegant formal rooms, 4BR/3BA, large rumpus with fireplace. Beautifully updated!

Teresa B...

510.338.1...

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY APRIL 30, 2-5 PM

Sophisticated 2+ bedroom, 1 bath Craftsman bungalow, situated on one of Glenview's coveted tree lined streets. Built in 1924, this home boasts charming architectural detail, reflecting the style and craftsmanship of the time. Formal living and dining rooms create an inviting great room with handsome built-ins. Sunny kitchen and adjoining breakfast room. Plus room opens to a secluded deck and level outdoor garden. Ideal location for commuters!



Christian Downer

510.338.1340

1334 El Centro Avenue  
Offered at \$669,000

cdowner@pacunion.com

www.pacunion.com

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

PENDING  
WITH 5 OFFERS



431 Pala Avenue  
Piedmont

Inviting 3 bedroom, 2 bath with large yard, pool and hot tub.

Offered at \$995,000

JUST SOLD



5351 Belgrave Place  
Oakland

Rockridge 2 bedroom/2 bath with spectacular SF and bay views

Offered at \$689,000



Martha Holstlaw

510.338.1312

www.pacunion.com

Looking for a new home? Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on page B11



# PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

## COMING SOON IN THE DIMOND DISTRICT

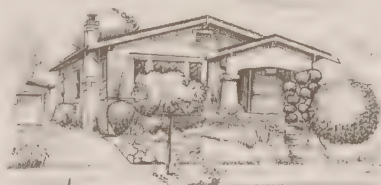


**A Gem in the Dimond**  
Offered at \$639,000

Wonderful Oakland Hills Views greet you from this lovely, spacious, two story Craftsman 4 bedroom, 1 bath home. This home boasts a charming entry, living room and dining room complete with built-in bookcases, gleaming hardwood floors, designer colors, a dining room hutch and a grand fireplace. Large, sunny backyard patio and lawn! Blocks to Dimond park, shops, restaurants and the new, highly anticipated Farmer's Joes "organic health food" store!

## NEW LISTING IN BERKELEY

OPEN SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2-4:30PM



**1119 Carleton Street, Berkeley**  
Offered at \$719,000

Move in to tranquility and charm of this 3 bedroom, 2 bath craftsman/period detail. Features include hardwood floors, natural wood built-ins, fireplace, master suite opening to gardener's paradise, and country kitchen/wedgewood stove. Close to transportation, freeways, shops, Cafe Trieste and restaurants. WWW.1119Carleton.com

## NEW LISTING - PIEDMONT



**455 Wildwood Avenue, Piedmont**  
Offered at \$4,250,000

An architectural treasure - magnificent John Hudson Thomas design exhibits a blend of the sweeping Prairie style, sophisticated Mediterranean motifs, and a Mission-style arcade. Intricate and refined period detailing enhances rich, warm wood finishes. Elegant formal rooms, 6+ bedrooms and 5+ baths, library and family room on approx. 1/2 acre site.

## FIRST OPEN SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2-4:30PM



**4 Rockridge Condominiums**  
320 51<sup>st</sup> Street, Oakland

These gracious, 1 bedroom condominiums have all of the modern conveniences while retaining the charm of an older building. Extensively remodeled. All new kitchens, baths, beautiful hardwood floors. Each condo has its own laundry & garage. Spacious living room, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen. Full of light & sunshine. Upper condos \$485,000, Lower condos \$475,000. Vibrant College Ave just around the corner - restaurants, shopping, BART & easy SF freeway access!

## OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30



**PEDMONT**  
**SEA VIEW AVE.**  
\$6,750,000

Exceptional residence designed by Willis Polk in the Spanish style. Approx. 1.5 acres with European-style garden and swimming pool. 5+BR/5+BA. Georgia Cornell x1325 & Nancy Rothman 510-701-0230



**UPPER ROCKRIDGE**  
**583 MANCHESTER AVE.**  
\$2,500,000

Model 4+BR/4+BA Traditional w/fabulous views. Master bedroom w/fireplace, billiard room, fireplace & 50s style soda fountain, separate living room. Beautiful gardens. Francis Heath x1357



**UPPER ROCKRIDGE**  
**534 COCHRANE**  
\$1,725,000

Contemporary on prime street. Uplifting design with high ceilings and generous spaces. 4BR/2+BA, family room with fireplace, large kitchen, breakfast area. David Ichikawa x1331



**PEDMONT**  
**5 SCENIC AVE.**  
\$1,495,000

Set on over 1/2 acre of wooded setting. Beautiful decking, bay views. 4BR/3BA, stylish kitchen, family room, home office. 505Scenic.com. Gini Erck x1383



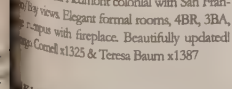
**NEW LEANDRO**  
**566 MARINEVIEW DR.**  
\$1,069,000

Amazing Bay-O-Vista contemporary. Extensively landscaped in 2002 by Grandview Building Co. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, gourmet kitchen, family room, 2 car garage, custom finishes. Candy Benny x1328



**PEDMONT**  
**5 SCENIC AVE.**  
\$1,895,000

Stunning central Piedmont colonial with San Francisco Bay views. Elegant formal rooms, 4BR, 3BA, large master suite with fireplace. Beautifully updated kitchen. Georgia Cornell x1325 & Teresa Baum x1387



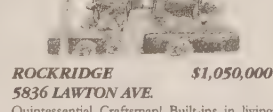
**OAKLAND HILLS**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$1,850,000

Luxury estate of 1.2+ acres offers the ultimate in privacy and serenity. 5BR, 3BA, formal dining room with fireplace. Beautifully updated kitchen. Helen Danhald x1356



**DANVILLE**  
**695 PARK HILL RD.**  
\$1,069,000

Classic ranch-style home located on the greenbelt in Sycamore. 4BR, 2BA, eat-in kitchen, fireplace in both family & living rooms. Secluded garden & patio. Candy Benny x1328 & Rosalie Woods x1324



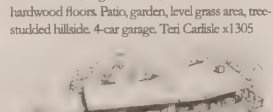
**UPPER ROCKRIDGE**  
**5836 LAWTON AVE.**  
\$1,050,000

Quintessential Craftsman! Built-ins in living room, dining room and study. Kitchen/family room. Sunny deck and lawn. 3 bedrooms, 2 remodeled baths! Lorri Arazi x1330



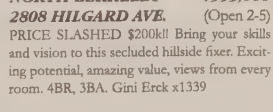
**MONTCLAIR**  
**6132 RUTHLAND RD.**  
\$1,039,000

This 3BR, 3.5BA home blends an open design with formal rooms, large windows, craftsman details and hardwood floors. Patio, garden, level grass area, tree-studded hillside. 4-car garage. Teri Carlisle x1305



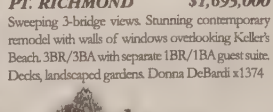
**NORTH BERKELEY**  
**2808 HILGARD AVE.**  
\$995,000

PRICE SLASHED \$200K!! Bring your skills and vision to this secluded hillside fixer. Exciting potential, amazing value, views from every room. 4BR, 3BA. Gini Erck x1339



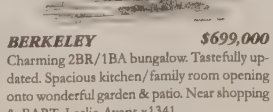
**MONTCLAIR**  
**5900 ASCOT DR.**  
\$775,000

Beautiful Bay, SF and Oakland city views on secluded 1/3+ acre lot. Open floor plan with hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and 2-car garage. Donna DeBardi x1374



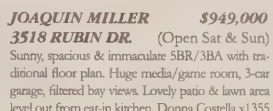
**PT. RICHMOND**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$1,695,000

Sweeping 3-bridge views. Stunning contemporary remodel with walls of windows overlooking Keller's Beach. 3BR/3BA with separate 1BR/1BA guest suite. Decks, landscaped gardens. Donna DeBardi x1374



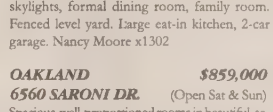
**BERKELEY**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$699,000

Charming 2BR/1BA bungalow. Tastefully updated. Spacious kitchen/family room opening onto wonderful garden & patio. Near shopping & BART. Leslie Avant x1341



**JOAQUIN MILLER**  
**3518 RUBIN DR.**  
\$949,000

Sunny, spacious & immaculate 5BR/3BA with traditional floor plan. Huge media/game room, 3-car garage, filtered bay views. Lovely patio & lawn area level out from eat-in kitchen. Donna Costella x1355



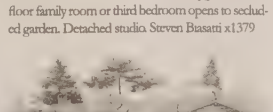
**JOAQUIN MILLER**  
**2930 JOAQUIN MILLER RD.**  
\$948,000

5+BR/3+BA. Vaulted ceiling, 2 fireplaces, skylights, formal dining room, family room. Fenced level yard. Large eat-in kitchen, 2-car garage. Nancy Moore x1302



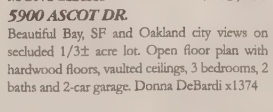
**OAKLAND**  
**6560 SARONI DR.**  
\$859,000

Spacious, well-proportioned rooms in beautiful, secluded setting. Upgraded eat-in kitchen and baths. 3+ bedrooms, 3.5 baths, in-law unit, 2-car garage. Ann Nichols x1319 & Jane Strauch x1332



**CROCKER HIGHLANDS**  
**1387 BARROWS RD.**  
\$829,000

Exquisite, sophisticated 1920's traditional. Bright, sleek kitchen and baths. Numerous upgrades. Main floor family room or third bedroom opens to secluded garden. Detached studio. Steven Basanti x1379



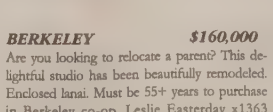
**PIEDMONT AVENUE**  
**177 RIDGEWAY AVE.**  
\$725,000

Great Craftsman home built in 1913. Beautiful architectural details - tall ceilings, wainscoting, a rare inglenook, hardwood floors, and two fireplaces. Roomy eat-in kitchen. Joan Dark x1316



**OAKLAND**  
**3027 CARLSEN ST.**  
\$679,000

Panoramic views from this spacious 3+BR/2BA home. Newly remodeled kitchen & baths. Family room, rec room/office & an undeveloped third level. Large terraced rear yard. Dwight McCan x1391



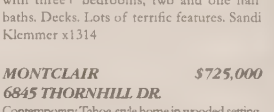
**EMERYVILLE**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$629,000

Forget the burbs! You can have it all just steps from shops & restaurants in one of Emeryville's finest townhome developments. 2BR/2BA, 2-car garage. Fritz Hochfeller x1348



**MONTCLAIR**  
**6155 WESTOVER DR.**  
\$749,000

Light and bright Montclair contemporary with three+ bedrooms, two and one half baths. Decks. Lots of terrific features. Sandi Klemmer x1314



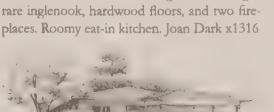
**MONTCLAIR**  
**6845 THORNHILL DR.**  
\$725,000

Contemporary Tahoe-style home in wooded setting. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, plus studio with separate entrance. Master suite. Newer paint & carpet, hardwood floors. Joanna Hirsch x1366 & Bonnie Hirsch x1337



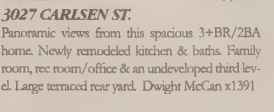
**LAKE MERRITT**  
**322 HANOVER AVE. #413**  
\$525,000

Beautiful and sophisticated 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with stunning views of Lake Merritt and downtown Oakland. Located on the 4th floor. Hardwood floors. Updated kitchen. Jennie Flanagan x1354



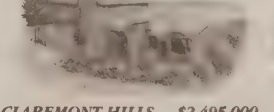
**HAYWARD**  
**17148 LOS BANOS ST.**  
\$515,000

Bright 2 bedroom, 1 bath with separate studio in rear. Fenced yard with hot tub, views. Refinished hardwood, dual pane windows, decks, 1-car garage, storage. Lee Jacobson x1309



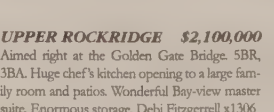
**NORTH OAKLAND**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$499,000

New listing! Two bedroom condo conversion with high-end finishes. Granite kitchen with stainless appliances. Great floorplan for entertaining guests. Tom Nemeth x1381



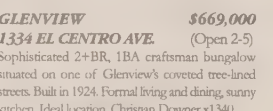
**CLAREMONT HILLS**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$2,495,000

Brand new with spectacular San Francisco, Golden Gate and bay views. 5+BR, 4.5BA contemporary designed by Phil Perkins. Magnificent living and dining areas with huge terraces. Fritz Hochfeller x1348



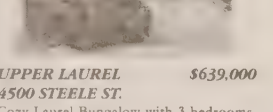
**UPPER ROCKRIDGE**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$2,100,000

Aimed right at the Golden Gate Bridge. 5BR, 3BA. Huge chef's kitchen opening to a large family room and patio. Wonderful Bay-view master suite. Enormous storage. Debi Fitzgerald x1306



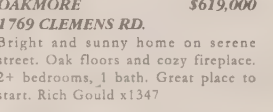
**GLENVIEW**  
**1334 EL CENTRO AVE.**  
\$669,000

Sophisticated 2+BR, 1BA craftsman bungalow situated on one of Glenview's coveted tree-lined streets. Built in 1924. Formal living and dining, sunny kitchen. Ideal location. Christian Downer x1340



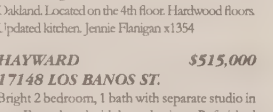
**UPPER LAUREL**  
**4500 STEELE ST.**  
\$639,000

Cozy Laurel Bungalow with 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 9,860± sq. ft. lot with garden, waterfall, hot tub, and still room to expand! Kathy Flynn x1317



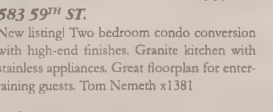
**OAKMORE**  
**1769 CLEMENS RD.**  
\$619,000

Bright and sunny home on serene street. Oak floors and cozy fireplace. 2+ bedrooms, 1 bath. Great place to start. Rich Gould x1347



**LAKE MERRITT**  
**322 HANOVER AVE. #413**  
\$525,000

Beautiful and sophisticated 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with stunning views of Lake Merritt and downtown Oakland. Located on the 4th floor. Hardwood floors. Updated kitchen. Jennie Flanagan x1354



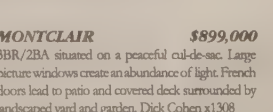
**HAYWARD**  
**17148 LOS BANOS ST.**  
\$515,000

Bright 2 bedroom, 1 bath with separate studio in rear. Fenced yard with hot tub, views. Refinished hardwood, dual pane windows, decks, 1-car garage, storage. Lee Jacobson x1309



**NORTH OAKLAND**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$499,000

New listing! Two bedroom condo conversion with high-end finishes. Granite kitchen with stainless appliances. Great floorplan for entertaining guests. Tom Nemeth x1381



**MONTCLAIR**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$1,200,000

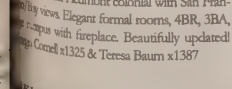
Spread low and wide across an exquisite landscape of over 1/3 acre, this handsome Hacienda-style home offers the best of old Montclair. Gini Erck x1339

## BY APPOINTMENT



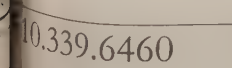
**PEDMONT**  
**5 SCENIC AVE.**  
\$1,895,000

Stunning central Piedmont colonial with San Francisco Bay views. Elegant formal rooms, 4BR, 3BA, large master suite with fireplace. Beautifully updated kitchen. Georgia Cornell x1325 & Teresa Baum x1387



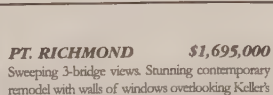
**OAKLAND HILLS**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$1,850,000

Luxury estate of 1.2+ acres offers the ultimate in privacy and serenity. 5BR, 3BA, formal dining room with fireplace. Beautifully updated kitchen. Helen Danhald x1356



**BERKELEY**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$699,000

Charming 2BR/1BA bungalow. Tastefully updated. Spacious kitchen/family room opening onto wonderful garden & patio. Near shopping & BART. Leslie Avant x1341



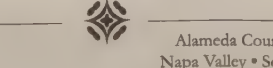
**PT. RICHMOND**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$1,695,000

Sweeping 3-bridge views. Stunning contemporary remodel with walls of windows overlooking Keller's Beach. 3BR/3BA with separate 1BR/1BA guest suite. Decks, landscaped gardens. Donna DeBardi x1374



**BERKELEY**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$699,000

Charming 2BR/1BA bungalow. Tastefully updated. Spacious kitchen/family room opening onto wonderful garden & patio. Near shopping & BART. Leslie Avant x1341



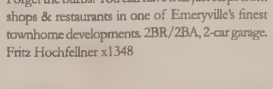
**BERKELEY**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$160,000

Are you looking to relocate a parent? This delightful studio has been beautifully remodeled. Enclosed lanai. Must be 55+ years to purchase in Berkeley co-op. Leslie Easterday x1363



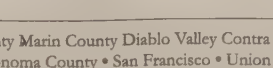
**EMERYVILLE**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$629,000

Forget the burbs! You can have it all just steps from shops & restaurants in one of Emeryville's finest townhome developments. 2BR/2BA, 2-car garage. Fritz Hochfeller x1348



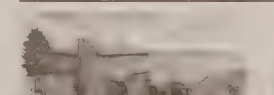
**CLAREMONT HILLS**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$2,495,000

Brand new with spectacular San Francisco, Golden Gate and bay views. 5+BR, 4.5BA contemporary designed by Phil Perkins. Magnificent living and dining areas with huge terraces. Fritz Hochfeller x1348



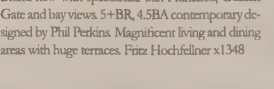
**UPPER ROCKRIDGE**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$2,100,000

Aimed right at the Golden Gate Bridge. 5BR, 3BA. Huge chef's kitchen opening to a large family room and patio. Wonderful Bay-view master suite. Enormous storage. Debi Fitzgerald x1306



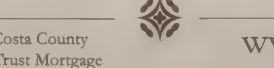
**LAKE MERRITT**  
**322 HANOVER AVE. #413**  
\$525,000

Beautiful and sophisticated 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with stunning views of Lake Merritt and downtown Oakland. Located on the 4th floor. Hardwood floors. Updated kitchen. Jennie Flanagan x1354



**HAYWARD**  
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\$515,000

Bright 2 bedroom, 1 bath with separate studio in rear. Fenced yard with hot tub, views. Refinished hardwood, dual pane windows, decks, 1-car garage, storage. Lee Jacobson x1309



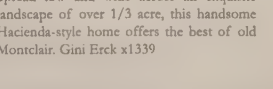
**NORTH OAKLAND**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$499,000

New listing! Two bedroom condo conversion with high-end finishes. Granite kitchen with stainless appliances. Great floorplan for entertaining guests. Tom Nemeth x1381



**MONTCLAIR**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$1,200,000

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**UPPER ROCKRIDGE**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$2,100,000

Aimed right at the Golden Gate Bridge. 5BR, 3BA. Huge chef's kitchen opening to a large family room and patio. Wonderful Bay-view master suite. Enormous storage. Debi Fitzgerald x1306



**MONTCLAIR**  
**583 59<sup>th</sup> ST.**  
\$899,000

3BR/2BA situated on a peaceful cul-de-sac. Large picture windows create an abundance of light. French doors lead to patio and covered deck surrounded by landscaped yard and garden. Dick Cohen x1308





## Report

FROM PAGE B6

Economist Leslie Appleton-Young. "Unsold inventory climbed significantly in the first two months of this year as listings increased and sales declined. Although the supply of homes for sale increased again in March, this was more than offset by a seasonal increase in sales, prompting a decrease in the unsold inventory index. We expect the supply of homes relative to sales to decline gradually over the next few months, although inventory levels will likely remain higher than those of the last two years."

## Highlights

■ C.A.R.'s Unsold Inventory Index for existing, single-family detached homes in March 2006 was 4.8 months, compared with 2.2 months (revised) for the same period a year ago. The index indicates the number of months needed to deplete the supply of homes on the market at the current sales rate.

■ Thirty-year fixed mortgage interest rates averaged 6.32 percent during March 2006, compared with 5.93 percent in March 2005, according to Freddie Mac. Adjustable mortgage interest rates averaged 5.42 percent in March 2006 compared with 4.23 percent in March 2005.

■ The median number of days it took to sell a single-family home was 44 days in March 2006, compared with 30 days (revised) for the same period a year ago.

The MLS median price and sales data for detached homes are generated from a survey of more than 90 associations of Realtors throughout the state. The MLS median price and sales data for condominiums are based on a survey of more than 60 associations. The median price for both detached homes and condominiums represents closed escrow sales.

In a separate report covering more localized statistics generated by C.A.R. and DataQuick Information Systems, 89.8 percent or 369 of 411 cities and communities showed an increase in their respective median home prices from a year ago.

DataQuick statistics are based on county records data rather than MLS information. DataQuick Information Systems is a subsidiary of Vancouver-based MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates. (The top 10 lists are generated for incorporated cities with a minimum of 30 recorded sales in the month.)

Large changes in local median home prices typically indicate both local home price appreciation, and often, large shifts in the composition of housing market activity. Some of the variations in median home prices may be exaggerated due to compositional changes in housing demand.

Leading the Way in California real

## GREATEST PRICE INCREASES

Reedley, 58.9 percent  
Atwater, 52 percent  
Twenty-nine Palms, 48.8 percent  
Barstow, 45.7 percent  
Beaumont, 45.6 percent  
Taft, 44 percent  
California City, 43.1 percent  
Burlingame, 40.4 percent  
Porterville, 40.3 percent  
Highland, 36.8 percent  
— compared with the same period a year ago

estate for more than 100 years, the California Association of Realtors ([www.car.org](http://www.car.org)) is one of the largest state trade organizations in the United States, with more than 185,000 members dedicated to the advancement of professionalism in real estate. C.A.R. is headquartered in Los Angeles.

## Alain Pinel sponsoring tomorrow Skyline High School event

ALAIN PINEL

Alain Pinel Realtors is sponsoring Skyline High School Beautification Day tomorrow. As part of its sponsorship, the majority of the 19 real estate professionals from Alain Pinel in Montclair plan to volunteer in the one-day cleanup and landscape planting at the high school. Tomorrow marks the second annual Skyline Beautification Day to benefit the high school, which is one of six comprehensive public high schools in Oakland and serves 2,220 students from throughout the city.

Skyline High School is in the Oakland Hills, near the company's Montclair office.

Last year, and after years of budget cut-backs in Oakland's

school districts, Skyline High's 45-acre campus was run-down and needed a thorough cleaning and landscape make-over. The Skyline Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) Beautification Committee was subsequently reactivated after many years of inactivity. The committee began work to renovate the grounds of the campus and help support the school's groundskeeper. More than 80 volunteers from school and community helped with general cleanup, weeding and trimming, planting, repair of vandalized areas, power-washing and removal of debris. Teachers and students designed and built planter boxes for the portable classrooms. The cleanup was so

successful that the PTSA to make it an annual event. Alain Pinel's Kate Castle is spearheading the effort in this year's cleanup.

"This is such a great school and our community that it was very easy to get the entire office around supporting the Skyline Beautification Day. Everyone knows the relationship between the schools and real estate is a perfect fit for Realtors and help," said Castle. She has been a Realtor for years and works with the band, Hal Castle, who has

See SKYLINE Page

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

STUNNING BAY-O-VISTA CONTEMPORARY



2466 Marineview Drive, San Leandro  
Offered at \$1,069,000

Built in 1962, this three bedroom, two & one-half bath, home combines classic mid-century architecture with timeless contemporary details. This home has been extensively remodeled - with the utmost attention given to detail - by Grandview Building Company. Everything from the windows & doors to the heating & electrical system been replaced. The result is a stunning contemporary that combines uncompromising quality with the functionality needed for today's busy lifestyle.



Candy Benny

510.338.1328

[www.candybenny.com](http://www.candybenny.com)

PLEASE RECYCLE.

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 2-4:30PM

Twilight Tour Wed. May 3rd 6-8:30PM

Panoramic views from this spacious 3+BR/2BA home. Newly remodeled kitchen and bathrooms. Floorplan includes a family room, rec. rm./home office and an undeveloped third level. Large terraced rear yard with sundeck, hot tub, fruit trees and area for vegetable garden. Freshly painted interior and exterior. Don't Miss!



3027 Carlsen Street, Oakland  
Offered at \$679,000

Dwight McCan

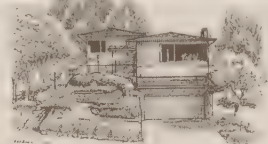
510.338.1391

[www.pacunion.com](http://www.pacunion.com)

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

COMING SOON



1959 Corter Avenue, Montclair

This stunning home is situated on a quiet cul-de-sac. It is just steps through the tunnel pathway which leads into the Montclair Village. French doors that lead from the kitchen to a patio and covered deck surrounded by a landscape yard and garden. Three bedrooms-two baths-living room with fireplace-updated ear-kitchen-bonus room/office-two car garage with inside access.

Offered at \$889,000

Dick Cohen

510.338.1308

[www.1959corteral.com](http://www.1959corteral.com)[www.pacunion.com](http://www.pacunion.com)

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

COMING SOON! 216 Ramona Avenue, Piedmont



Located in central Piedmont this classic 1950's home is built with quality, and style. Level-in, formal living room, dining room, eat-in kitchen opening to outdoor deck, two bedrooms, two baths. Downstairs a third bedroom and full bath as well as a generous family room with separate entrance.

Price Upon Request

Nancy Rothman

510.339.2169 x 6209

[www.NancyRothman.com](http://www.NancyRothman.com)[www.pacunion.com](http://www.pacunion.com)

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY APRIL 30, 1-5PM

GORGEOUS 2BR/2BA CONDO



Stunning views of Lake Merritt & Downtown Oakland from this sophisticated fourth floor condo, boasting gleaming bamboo floors & an updated kitchen w/ granite countertops and stainless appliances. Jog Lake Merritt then enjoy a cup of coffee/newspaper on the expansive wrap-around deck. Grab a good book and warm yourself by the fireplace. Blocks to Casual Carpool, BART, Farmer's Market, restaurants, movies!

322 Hanover #413, Lake Merritt  
Offered at \$525,000

Online Tour [www.322Hanover.com](http://www.322Hanover.com)

Jennie A. Flanigan

510.610.3601

[www.pacunion.com](http://www.pacunion.com)

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW PIEDMONT AVENUE LISTING!

OPEN SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2-4:30PM



City Living at Its Best! Great Craftsman home built with tall ceilings, wainscoting, a breakfast nook, hardwood floors and more. The home has been a 1/1+1/1 duplex. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, garage, neighborhood!

177 Ridgeway Avenue, Oakland  
Offered at \$725,000

Joan Dark

510.338.1316

[www.pacunion.com](http://www.pacunion.com)

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

COMING SOON IN MONTCLAIR



Spread low and wide across an exquisite landscape of over 1/3 acre, this handsome 1940 Hacienda style home offers the best of old Montclair.

Offered at \$1,200,000

Gini Erck

510.338.1339

[gerck@pacunion.com](mailto:gerck@pacunion.com)[pacunion.com/ginierck](http://pacunion.com/ginierck)

## PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW MONTCLAIR LISTING

OPEN SUN. APRIL 30, 2-4:30

Located in a quiet Montclair neighborhood this 11 year old home blends an open flowing design with formal rooms, large windows, craftsman details, and hardwood floors. The spacious kitchen/family room opens to the patio, garden, level grass area and tree studded hillside. Approx 2950 Sq ft of living space that includes 3 BR 3.5 BA and Rumpus room. Excellent storage and a 4 Car Garage!



Teri Carlisle

510.338.1305

6132 RUTHLAND ROAD

Offered at \$1,039,000

[tericarlisle@pacunion.com](mailto:tericarlisle@pacunion.com)



Looking for a new home? Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on page B24.

## Two Level Live/Work Loft with Great Workspace

958 28<sup>th</sup> Street, #17A  
Oakland, CA 94608  
Offered at \$495,000

Located in Oakland's booming "Dogtown," home to artists, metal workers, furniture makers and other creative, work-at-home types, this soaring live-work loft has a lot to offer. The spacious downstairs features durable painted concrete floors and lots of wall space (30 feet high!) for you to set up shop in. With newly installed task lighting and immediate access to the secured driveway and parking, this space is an ideal work zone or an additional level of living space.

Climb the stairs to the second level, which overlooks the work area below and features a cool kitchen with stainless appliances and a double sink, dining/living space and bathroom - complete with a claw-footed, wooden-rimmed, metal-clad tub/shower combination. With gorgeous red-mahogany floors, new kitchen counters and cabinets with glass doors, dishwasher, adjustable, cable-mounted halogen lighting and a bathroom with granite topped vanity, this level is the heart of your home. There's even a window nook and additional loft space for a cozy sleeping area or additional storage. The loft also features a brightly enameled cast iron gas fireplace on each level.

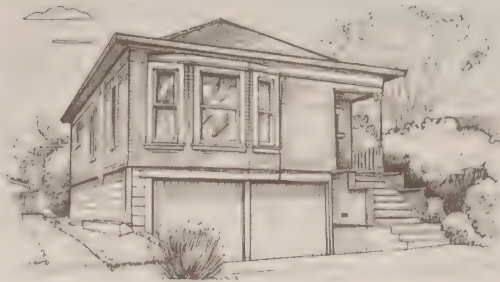
On-site laundry facilities and generous secure storage area are additional pluses. The convenient location puts you just minutes from Emeryville and Downtown Oakland, and the quick and easy access to the Bay Bridge makes this a great, affordable alternative to San Francisco loft living!

Perry Riani, Realtor®  
510.813.3799 Email priani@earthlink.net

Online Tour @ [www.958-28th.com](http://www.958-28th.com)



## I Survived the "Big One" - 1904 Berkeley Edwardian Beauty



1827 Ward Street @ Martin Luther King Jr. Way  
Offered at \$565,000

- Bright 2 bedroom, 1+ bath, rear enclosed porch
- New gas stove & stainless fridge in updated kitchen; large pantry
- Sparkling hardwood floors, original unpainted wood trim
- Hot tub and wooden deck in lush, private back garden w/mature fruit tree
- Two-car garage for storage and parking
- New dual-pane windows, custom decorator paint, recently insulated
- Blocks to Berkeley Bowl, Ashby BART, downtown Berkeley shopping

★ ★ Open Sunday, April 30 & May 7, 1 to 5 p. m. ★ ★  
ONLINE TOUR: [www.1827Ward.com](http://www.1827Ward.com)

Stephen Bloom, Realtor®  
Lawton Associates  
510-541-6728  
[bloom@BloomHomes.com](mailto:bloom@BloomHomes.com)



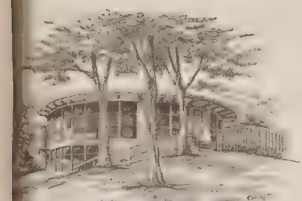
3160 College Ave., Ste. 201, Berkeley, CA 94705

## WELLS & BENNETT REALTORS

1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND  
(510) 531-7000  
[www.wellsandbennett.com](http://www.wellsandbennett.com)

Cabins, Condos, and Luxury Home Rentals Available Now in Lake Tahoe! 800-858-2463

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00PM-4:30PM



1399 WOODVIEW DRIVE \$1,098,000  
Lafayette. Start your day looking over the Marin Valley with its rolling hills and tree tops of red and gold. This 2-story circular home has four bedrooms, three baths, spacious living room, a separate family room for relaxation and much more. Pictures at [wellsandbennett.com](http://wellsandbennett.com)  
Bonnie Leffmann 531-7000 x278



657 ALLENDALE AVENUE \$639,000  
Maxwell Park. Fabulous Tudor with architectural detail and charm on great street. Spacious three bedroom, one and a half baths, living room with Mahogany trim, elegant fireplace and view, new gourmet kitchen with slate floor and cherry cabinets, great landscaped yard and Redwood deck, two-car garage, many upgrades!  
Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228



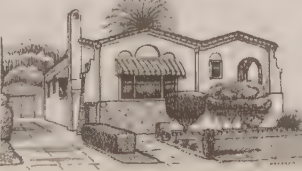
1082 SHAFTER AVENUE \$598,000  
Lower Temescal. Charming turn of the century farm house with a wonderful garden. There are two bedrooms, one bathroom and a non-conforming one bedroom unit downstairs. Near BART, Kaiser Hospital, and Piedmont Avenue. Large lot, great potential!  
Kevin P. Kennedy 531-7000 x204



3045 MADELINE \$595,000  
Laurel. Stylish Laurel bungalow. Two bedroom, one bath with architectural detail, beautiful hardwood floors, tasteful upgrades, downstairs laundry room and bonus area, large backyard and new foundation. Dual paned windows throughout, DSL installed and lots of extra storage. Must see!  
Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292



666 POST #1503 \$589,000  
San Francisco. Charming Art Deco N.Y. style one plus bedroom coop in heart of S.F. with wonderful light and city views from the 15<sup>th</sup> floor. Sunny corner unit. High ceilings, elegant living room with fireplace, hardwood floors, on site manager. Steps from Union Square Theatre district.  
Rose Nied 531-7000 x273



2907 56<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE \$529,000  
Maxwell Park. Delightful refurbished three bedroom, two bath home features master suite with walk-in closet, eat-in kitchen with new counters, updated bath, gracious living room with handsome fireplace, formal dining room. A spring treat!  
Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246

5225 FAIRSIDE WAY \$525,000  
Antioch. Fabulous three bedroom, two bath home with a private backyard and two car garage. Featuring a gourmet kitchen with new appliances and granite counter tops, this home is in move-in condition. The interior walls of the single story home have been painted with designer colors and there is new Berber carpet throughout.  
Open Saturday and Sunday 1pm-4pm  
Elisa Uribe 531-7000 x272

3373 BIRDSALL AVENUE \$469,000  
Maxwell Park. Light-filled two bedroom, one bath with character! Living room with vaulted ceiling, large picture window with view, and fireplace, refinished hardwood floors, large updated eat-in kitchen with new flooring and greenhouse window, gorgeous tile bath, sunny level yard with patio, detached garage with automatic opener.  
Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228

2222 57<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE \$410,000  
Oakland. This two bedroom, one bath split level home features, living room with fireplace, dining room, eat-in kitchen, basement with laundry could be an extra room. Large backyard with detached garage. Some TLC needed in kitchen.  
Teri L. Lester 531-7000 x262

## COMING SOON

### SPACIOUS CONDO

This one bedroom, one bath condominium is a must see. Featuring a updated bathroom and kitchen, patio off of living room, lots of storage space, and secured parking. Will be available for showing, May 1<sup>st</sup>. Call for more information.

Teri L. Lester 531-7000 x262

## BY APPOINTMENT

5 HOMES PLUS MOTEL \$5,992,296  
Commercial property in Northern CA along I-5. Currently used for five residential & commercial properties. Excellent development for shopping center, mix-use, building.  
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

FOUR PLEX \$885,000  
Adams Point. Residential four plex in Lake Merritt area. Originally a wonderfully spacious home. Three units delivered vacant make for a four bedroom, three bath home and still have a two bedroom rental! This is a super alternative to a condo or TIC.  
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

## BY APPOINTMENT

VICTORIAN FOUR PLEX \$825,000  
Oakland. Three blocks from Jack London Square. Ideal setting for professional office or live-work. Several upgrades completed.  
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

REMODELED HOME \$599,000  
San Lorenzo. Situated in a commercially zoned area of San Lorenzo off Hesperian. Formerly used as a hair salon. Excellent traffic flow. Suitable for professional offices, apartments, retail, auto according to county zoning. Large level lot.  
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235



1800's VICTORIAN \$499,000  
Oakland. Beautiful Architectural detail. Don't miss a chance to see this great Victorian. This three bedroom, two bath home is a must see. Updated kitchen and baths, patio off of master suite, living room, dining room with fireplace, basement, garage, and easy access to transportation. Make an appointment to see this wonderful home today. Two hours notice please.  
Teri L. Lester 531-7000 x262

GREAT LOCATION! \$339,000  
Adams Point. Huge Corner Unit! This one bedroom, one bath has over 900sqft. Separate stall shower and tub. Many upgrades & amenities. Whole foods will be nearby coming soon.  
Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238

## LAND

CORNING CA LOT \$4,398,000  
Two contiguous parcels of nine plus acres. Includes five residences. Off Interstate five near Redding. Excellent development potential for housing tract or commercial. Utilities on site.  
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

45<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE LOT \$1,600,000  
Fruitvale District. 36,000sqft zoned mfg, commercial, live-work. Near High Street and International.  
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

WESTOVER DRIVE LOT \$349,000  
Wonderful upslope lot in Shepherd Canyon area of Montclair. Includes approved building plans for 4000sqft home. Financing available.  
Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235



This  
week's  
Open  
Home  
Guide can  
be found  
on B24.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-5:30



**218 Pala Avenue, Piedmont**  
Elegant traditional home in Central Piedmont. Lovely architectural details. 5+ bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, kitchen/family room combination opening to deck and backyard. And Bay views too!

Price \$2,495,000

**Nancy Hinkley, Realtor**

Office: 510.428.0900

Voice Mail: 510.433.2842

nancy.hinkley@pruerealty.com

342 Highland Ave., Piedmont



**Prudential**  
California Realty



NEW LISTING~OPEN 4/29 AND 4/30

**Gourmet Ghetto Sweetie****2022 Delaware Street**

Offered at \$795,000



**Prudential**  
California Realty

Set back from the street on a large lot, this once one-story cottage was transformed into a two-story 3 bedroom, 2 bath home in 2004. Among its many features: a new foundation with seismic retrofit, new electrical and plumbing, new kitchen with custom-made maple kitchen cabinets and stainless steel appliances, and all new windows. Wonderfully landscaped flat front and side yard. Close to Berkeley's famous "Gourmet Ghetto," UC-Berkeley campus, and downtown.

**Natalie Cutler**

510.986.9543

President's Circle Award 2004 &amp; 2005

natashac@earthlink.net

CROCKER HIGHLANDS



**Open Sunday**  
**April 30 ~ 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

Classic 1920s bungalow featuring 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, formal dining room with built-in China cabinet, spacious living room with fireplace and balcony. Solarium addition in guest bedroom opens to enchanting garden. A charming home with original detail in a great neighborhood.

Visit [www.DoloresThom.com](http://www.DoloresThom.com) for photos & more information and to view all active East Bay listings.

**Dolores Thom**

Fine Homes Specialist

510/834-2010 Office

510/835-6080 VM

510/290-1218 Cell

**Just Listed**  
**719 Mandana Blvd.**  
**Offered at \$649,000**



**Prudential**  
California Realty

COTTAGE-CONDO; GREAT LOCATION



3840 Greenwood Avenue

\$325,000

Listen. Analyze. Advise. Market. Close.



**Prudential**  
California Realty

This classic home set in a beautiful garden combines authentic style with a great location - just between Crocker Highlands and Park Boulevard. Boasting hardwood floors, a vintage kitchen, and a bedroom and living room, this light-filled condo is perfectly situated. Garage w/cascading wisteria in bloom!

**Limited Open Houses****Sat. and Sun.****April 29-30th 2-4:30 p.m.****Maureen Kennedy**

Broker-Realtor

Piedmont Office

510-290-8535 (cell)

Virtual tour/photos:

[www.MaureenKennedy.net](http://www.MaureenKennedy.net)

**Prudential**  
California Realty

## FEATURED HOMES



**Sunday 2-4** **\$2,890,000**  
20 Stephens Way. Arch designed 4+BR/3.5BA, panoramic view home. Fab! **Terrence Jue** (510) 868-1471



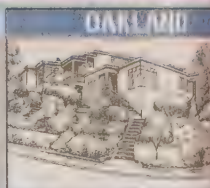
**Sunday 2-4:30** **\$1,210,000**  
250 Estates. Fab home, 3+BR/3BA ranch & pool. Bonus for 4th BR. **Ted Normart/Rita Harrington** (510) 845-0211



**Sunday 2-4:30** **\$780,000**  
4867 Reinhardt. 3BR/2.5BA, spacious. Lower level has outside access. **Henriette Lanier-Green** (510) 834-2010



**Sunday 2-4:30** **\$739,000**  
4107 Lyman Road. New Listing! Stylish 2++ BR/1.5BA storybook Tudor in Oakmore. **Kristo Makris** (510) 339-9290



**Sat/Sun 2-4** **\$389,000**  
3840 Greenwood Ave. Condo in 4-plex! 1BA, patios, matr gard, storage, garage. **Maureen Kennedy** (510) 428-0900

**PIEDMONT**  
**Sunday 2-4:30** **\$2,495,000**  
218 Pala. Awesome SF-like 5BR/3.5BA, kit/fam arch, details, view! **Nancy Hinkley** (510) 428-0900

**Sunday 2-5** **\$899,000**  
955 Kingston Ave. Classic 2BR/1BA Craftsman, period details, large lot. **B. Salomone/M. Bottano** (510) 325-8035

**Sunday 2-5** **\$379,000**  
One Kellon Ct. #1B. 1BR/1BA condo, spacious, parking, views of S.F. **Pattie Holm** (510) 527-9800

**OAKLAND**  
**Sunday 2-4:30** **\$1,259,000**  
1836 Drake Drive. New listing! Beautifully renovated 3BR/2.5BA Montclair view home & cottage. **Patricia Makinen** (510) 339-9290

**Sunday 2-4:30** **\$839,000**  
1562 Trestle Glen Rd. New listing. Charming, bright 3BR/2BA English style beauty. **Howard Converse** (510) 339-9290

**Sunday 2-4:30** **\$739,000**  
1869 Arrowhead Drive. Recently remodeled 3BR/2BA wooded Montclair retreat. **Michael Stephens** (510) 339-9290

**Sunday 2-4:30** **\$725,000**  
4400 Terrabella Place. Beautiful 3BR/2+BA Montebello Terrace home with bay views. **Rick Richetta** (510) 339-9290

**Sunday 2-4** **\$699,000**  
3983 Forest Hill. 2+BR/1.5BA, 2-car garage, large room, full basement. **Terrence Jue** (510) 868-1471

**Sunday 2-5** **\$649,000**  
Crocker Highlands. 719 Mandana. Charming 2BR/1BA bungalow, built-ins, balcony, enchanting garden. **Dolores Thom** (510) 834-2010

**OAKLAND**  
**Sunday 2-5** **\$500,000**  
555 10th St. #419. Updated loft style 2BR/2BA, new kitchen, bath, WOW! **B. Salomone/M. Bottano** (510) 325-8035

**Sunday 2-5** **\$499,000**  
3100 Birdsal. Mediterranean 2BR/1BA beauty w/hardwood floors & stunning formal dining room. **Lisa Friedman** (510) 339-9290

**Sunday 2-5** **\$499,000**  
3316 Coolidge. Remodeled 2BR/2BA bungalow, HWF, fireplace, new paint/carpets. **Bryan Salomone** (510) 428-0900

**Sunday 2-4:30** **\$480,000**  
695 Mariposa #302. 2BR/2BA spacious elegant unit in great location. **Ho/Arata** (510) 845-0211

**Sunday 2-4** **\$480,000**  
776 60th St. Cute 2BR/1BA home close to shops, hardwood floors, large kitchen & yard. **Natasha Hawkins** (510) 868-1539

**West Oakland Fixer** **\$380,000**  
3BR/1BA. Full basement, large lot. Great opportunity for expansion. **Henriette Lanier-Green** (510) 834-2010

**Sunday 2-4** **\$278,000**  
10 Moss Ave. #15. 1BR/1BA updated condo near Piedmont Ave. **Sucheta Dhupelia** (510) 868-1400

**BERKELEY**  
**Claremont 1-Level!** **\$1,195,000**  
Light-filled, sophisticated contemp near Rockridge BART, shops, 3BR/2BA. **Julie Lehman** (510) 915-7207

**Sunday 2-5** **\$649,000**  
2011 Grant. Edwardian in stellar shape! 2BR/1.5BA, walk to BART, UCB. **Candice/David** (510) 868-1400

Answers  
to your  
buying  
questions

Whether you're new to the process or an experienced home buyer, you can get answers to all of your questions with our **Buyer's Guide and Financing Guide.**

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## BERKELEY

**Sunday 2-4** **\$589,000**  
2421 Curtis. Adorable 2BR/1BA bungalow w/ sunny, open flr plan. Remodeled kitchen, garage/studio & spacious backyard. **Eric N. Silverman** (510) 428-0900

**Sunday 2-5** **\$475,000**  
2141 Oregon St. #3. Excellent location! 2BR/1.5BA condo, no car necessary! **Crandall/Halgerson** (510) 868-1400

**Sunday 2-5** **\$399,000**  
1119 Hearst. Sunny condo in Victorian beauty. Level-in 1BR, open flow. **(510) 845-0211**

## HAYWARD

**Quiet Neighborhood** **\$579,000**  
3BR/2.5BA, hardwood flrs, located SLZ/Hayward border. Call to view. **Kathy Gil** (510) 676-2670

## HAYWARD

**Sunday 1-4** **\$460,000**  
21239 Gary Dr. #211. Large 2BR/2BA, view, fireplace, garage & more! **Sandi Porter** (510) 834-2010

**1 Yr. New 2BR/2BA** **\$137,900**  
Vaulted ceilings, open floor plan, close to shops. Senior community. **Kathy Gil** (510) 676-2670

## RICHMOND

**Sunday 2-5** **\$498,900**  
3015 Howard. Wonderful 3BR/2BA plus studio w/ income. Large lot. **Claudia Esteban** (510) 527-9800

## ROSSMOOR

**Price Reduced!** **\$579,000**  
Rossmoor condo. 2BR/2BA all upgraded! Seller is motivated! **Nancy Blom** (510) 610-6126

**RESIDENTIAL INC.**  
**Sunday 2-4:30** **\$899,000**  
720 61st St. Oakland. Restored brownstone duplex gem! **Lucretia Jacobs** (510) 339-9290

**Rent Exempt Duplex** **\$589,000**  
Berkeley rent exempt duplex. 2BR each. Cosmetic fixer. **Terrence Jue** (510) 868-1471

**Sunday 1-4** **\$299,000**  
4517 Fairfax, Oakland. Vacant duplex! Call your dream! Both have own laundry. **Jeanette Vento** (510) 676-2670

**COMMERCIAL INC.**  
**Fruitvale Commercial** **\$1,389,000**  
3 separate bldgs., one parcel. M-30 zone. s.f., improvements, parking lot. **Barry Klein** (510) 868-1471

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and challenging career?

FREE TRAINING

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800-499-5551

open home

virtual

ALAMEDA 510-337-8670 BERKELEY REGIONAL 510-868-1400 CLAREMONT 510-845-0211 EL CERRILLO 510-537-9300 EL SOBRANTE 510-758-5637 GRAND LAKE 510-834-2010 MONTCLAIR 510-339-9290 PIEDMONT 510-428-0900

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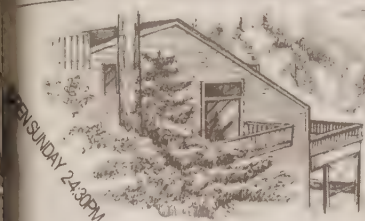
# skyline

FROM PAGE B10  
 in the Montclair District  
 past 33 years.  
 For 2006, the PTSA have al-  
 ready purchased plants and wa-  
 tering cans for the planter boxes,  
 and more than 200 daffodils  
 planted through the Keep Oak-  
 land Beautiful program, arranged  
 additional trash receptacles to

be placed both around the ath-  
 letic field and successfully lob-  
 bled Waste Management to install  
 larger receptacles on Skyline  
 Boulevard. The organization also  
 renovated a garden that was de-  
 cimated by deer.  
 Area residents who wish to  
 contribute to the Skyline High  
 School Beautification program  
 can do so. Checks should be  
 made payable to: Skyline HS  
 PTSA—Beautification Committee

and mailed to Skyline High  
 School 12250 Skyline Boulevard,  
 Oakland, CA 94619, to the at-  
 tention of the PTSA Treasurer.  
 For information contact Kate  
 Castle in the Montclair office of  
 Alain Pinel by calling 510-899-  
 8007 or kcastle@april.com. The  
 Alain Pinel Realtors' office is at  
 6116 La Salle Avenue on the sec-  
 ond floor in Montclair Village.

## Gorgeous Montclair Contemporary with Wooded Views!



6690 Pine Needle Drive, Montclair

3 bedroom, 3 bathroom Contemporary offers the best of modern liv-  
 ing in a secluded gorgeous wooded setting! Detailing such as vaulted  
 wood beamed ceilings, tile entry, skylights, refinished hardwood floors  
 and walls of windows with wooded canyon views make this home re-  
 markable. Updated kitchen includes granite countertops, new appliances,  
 and hardwood floors. Loft/Plus space makes the perfect home office or  
 study room. Surrounding decks & hot tub are ideal for indoor/outdoor  
 entertaining and enjoying nature!

Offered at \$689,000

## MONTCLAIR



Nahid Nassiri

"Your Best Move"

510.339.4550 direct

510.339.8400 office

**P. Scott Rogers**  
 Real Estate Consultant  
 925.217.3115  
 www.pscottrogers.com  
 A Personal and Professional  
 Advocate for you  
**EMPIRE**  
 Realty Associates

6258 RIDGEMONT DRIVE, Oakland



OPEN SUNDAY  
 1-4 PM

Sought After  
 Ridgemont Location

Don't miss this wonderful Ridgemont home nestled in the Oakland Hills. Enjoy the summer  
 in a cozy backyard with lush landscaping and a built-in BBQ - perfect for outdoor  
 entertaining. Wood floors and decorator paint throughout make this three bedroom, two  
 and one-half bath floorplan family-friendly and move-in ready! **Offered for \$989,000**

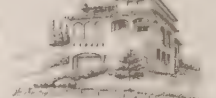
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 sunday



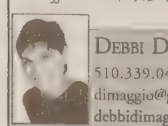
95 Westminster Drive  
 Claremont Pines  
 Offered at \$2,150,000



62 Sereno Circle  
 Redwood Hills  
 Offered at \$699,000



6963 Buckingham Blvd  
 Oakland Hills  
 Offered at \$1,495,000



DEBBI DiMAGGIO

510.339.0400/227

dimaggio@grubbco.com

debbidimaggio.com

The GRUBB Co.

GRUBBCO.COM

LISA SETTLEMIER

Licensed Assistant

510.339.0400/334

settlemier@grubbco.com



## GARDEN LOVER'S PARADISE!



5620 Snake Drive, Montclair

In the heart of Montclair & within walking distance to shops, restaurants and easy  
 commute, this gorgeous 2 BD, 1 BA Traditional has been renovated to perfec-  
 tion. Complete with random plank hardwood floors, vaulted open wood beamed  
 ceiling, original architectural detailing, 'restoration hardware' kitchen and great  
 English garden fireplace; it is the center diamond in the midst of a gorge-  
 ous English garden. With grounds that span 1/3 acre and offer level lawns, pri-  
 vacy, outdoor fireplace, stone lined creek, a park like setting and an abun-  
 dance of mature trees and plants; it's the optimal outdoor entertainers dream!

Offered at \$749,000

## MONTCLAIR



Nahid Nassiri

"Your Best Move"

510.339.4550 direct

510.339.8400 office

## GREAT LOCALE, GREAT LISTING!

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30PM



2420 Marti Rae Ct., Alameda

Located in the historic Park Avenue area and within walking distance to shops,  
 restaurants and easy commute, this gorgeous 1 BD, 1 BA 1920's cottage has been  
 completely renovated to maintain its unique detailing while also offering occu-  
 pants the convenience of modern day amenities! Complete with hardwood floors,  
 original architectural detailing, tons of windows for an abundance of natural light,  
 a great room with fireplace and updated kitchen and bath; this home is a must see  
 for anyone ready to buy!

Offered at \$449,000

Please visit this fine property on the web at [www.NahidNassiri.com](http://www.NahidNassiri.com)

## MONTCLAIR



Nahid Nassiri

"Your Best Move"

510.339.4550 direct

510.339.8400 office

## MONTCLAIR

**Better Homes Realty**  
 is independently owned and operated

1986 Mountain Blvd.

Oakland, CA 94611

510.339.8400

1430 Leimert Blvd.

Oakland, CA 94602

510.339.4000

## OPEN HOMES

**MONTCLAIR**  
**CRICKETT PLACE**  
 \$1,425,000  
 3 bed, 3 bath, 3500 sq ft with fabulous  
 views, separate 2 m guest suite. Near  
 Montclair village shopping and regional  
 transit. OPEN SUN 2-4:30 Photo tour @  
[www.mccoville.com](http://www.mccoville.com) 339-8400-339-4280

**OAKLAND**  
**172 MATHIEU AVENUE**  
 \$1,250,000  
 3 bed, 3 bath, 3500 sq ft with fabulous  
 views, separate 2 m guest suite. Near  
 Montclair village shopping and regional  
 transit. OPEN SUN 2-4:30 Photo tour @  
[www.mccoville.com](http://www.mccoville.com) 339-8400-339-4280

**OAKLAND**  
**REINHARDT DR**  
 \$1,088,000  
 3 bed, 3 bath, 3500 sq ft with fabulous  
 views, separate 2 m guest suite. Near  
 Montclair village shopping and regional  
 transit. OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4  
 Ken Nwokedi 339-8400-485.5119

**ROCKRIDGE**  
**525 FOREST STREET**  
 \$995,000  
 Craftsman duplex, each 2 BR, owner's  
 unit vacant w/ 3 car garage, can be re-  
 stored to SFR. Close to BART.  
 OPEN SUN 2-4:30 Photos at:  
[carolineandmichelle.com](http://carolineandmichelle.com) 339-8400-339-4554

**TEMESCAL BORDER**  
**529 45TH STREET**  
 \$728,000  
 NEW PRICE! Beautiful Victorian  
 duplex. Temescal border. Lrg upper  
 perfect for owner! Each w/ hwdw flrs,  
 eat-in kitchen & laundry. Landscaped  
 back garden. OPEN SUN 2-5  
 Regina Jacobs 339-8400-339-4568

**MAXWELL PARK**  
**2963 55TH AVENUE**  
 \$499,000  
 Trad. home with magical garden! Great  
 commute location near Mills College, fire-  
 place, hwdw flrs. OPEN SUN 2-4:30  
 See tour and photos at:  
[PatriciaBennett.com](http://PatriciaBennett.com) 339-8400-482.9000

**PARKWOODS**  
**260 CALDECOTT LN #124**  
 \$515,000  
 New custom kitchen cabinets and counter  
 tops. New chef quality stainless steel appli-  
 cations. HWP's - Nice view! Desirable near  
 building #260 OPEN SUN 2-5  
 Jack Brennehan 339-8400-339-4557

**PIEDMONT PINES**  
**5670 ASCOT DRIVE**  
 \$860,000  
 Private retreat with an open floor plan,  
 master suite and huge outdoor areas with  
 pool. OPEN SUN 2-4:30  
 See tour and photos at:  
[PatriciaBennett.com](http://PatriciaBennett.com) 339-8400-482.9000

**OAKMORE**  
**1878 TIFFIN ROAD**  
 \$695,000  
 2bd/1ba Spanish Mediterranean home.  
 FLR w/ fireplace, FDR, beautiful hwdw flrs,  
 new int paint, laundry Rm, Nice Back-  
 yard, 1 car garage. OPEN SUN 2-4:30  
 Ken Nwokedi 339-4000-485.5110

**MAXWELL PARK**  
**4547 SAN CARLOS AVENUE**  
 \$499,999  
 Fabulous 3bd/1+ba Bungalow. Orig ar-  
 chitectural charm in Maxwell Park w/  
 FDR, living rm, fireplace, spacious kitchen,  
 large backyard. OPEN SUN 2-4  
 Ganice Morgan Austin 339-4000-899.6395

**OAKLAND**  
**2538 83RD AVENUE**  
 \$410,000  
 Charming 2/1 w/ orig. period details,  
 FDR, HWP's, partial updating & new  
 landscaping. Perfect for 1st time  
 buyer or investor. OPEN SUN 2-4  
 Robert M. Scott 339-4000-485.5118

**CROCKER HIGHLANDS**  
**673 ROSAL AVENUE**  
 \$799,000  
 Large 2 story 3+1/5 traditional Crocker  
 Highlands home-Gourmet Viking  
 Range, Magic gardens, needs work.  
 OPEN SUN 2-5  
 Jennie Lippincott 339-8400-384.3557

**MONTCLAIR**  
**6690 PINE NEEDLE DRIVE**  
 \$689,000  
 Contemp. 3bd/3ba in gorgeous  
 wooded setting! Updated kitchen &  
 baths. Great rm has vaulted wood  
 beam ceilings, HWP's stone fireplace  
 & skylights. OPEN SUN 2-4:30  
 Nahid Nassiri 339-8400-339-4550

**ALAMEDA**  
**2420 MARTI RAE COURT**  
 \$449,000  
 Adorable 1920's cottage completely  
 renovated. Original beauty w/ modern  
 conveniences. Hwdw flrs, stone fireplace,  
 picture moldings, walking distance to  
 everything. OPEN SUN 2-4:30  
 Nahid Nassiri 339-8400-339-4550

**ADAMS POINT**  
**365 PERKINS ST #107**  
 \$389,000  
 Chic Adams Point 2bd/1ba condo.  
 Well maintained quiet bldg. Corner  
 unit, updated kitchen/bath. Living rm w/  
 drs to pvt. patio. OPEN SUN 2-4:30  
 Rosie Nysaether 339-8400-339-4567

**MONTCLAIR**  
**4048 COOLIDGE**  
 \$749,000  
 Gorg. 13,000+ sq ft landscaped  
 grounds. 1930's 2bd/1ba traditional.  
 Remodeled kitchen & bath. Great rm has  
 vaulted wood beamed ceiling, brick FP  
 & plank hwdw flrs. OPEN SUN 2-4:30  
 Nahid Nassiri 339-8400-339-4550

**GLENVIEW**  
**3952 CANON AVENUE**  
 \$625,000  
 Charming newer townhome in fab  
 location. Walk to park, express bus to  
 S.F. & BART, shopping, dining.  
 Hwdw flrs, master suite.  
 OPEN SUN 2-4:30 See tour and photos at:  
[PatriciaBennett.com](http://PatriciaBennett.com) 339-8400-482.9000

**OAKLAND HILLS**  
**7840 MICHIGAN AVENUE**  
 \$699,000  
 Stunning 3bd/2.5ba contemp. Built in 1995.  
 Mid-level w/ panoramic Bay views, FDR, FR  
 w/fireplace, hwdw flrs, decks, vaulted ceiling.  
[www.7840MichiganAve.com](http://www.7840MichiganAve.com)  
 OPEN SUN 1-4  
 Jennifer Hobbs 339-8400-633.0335

**OAKLAND**  
**150 PEARL STREET #106**  
 \$310,000  
 Wonderful 1bd/1ba condo in a great  
 area. Updated kitchen & bath. Close to  
 Lake Merritt, shopping, freeways. Best  
 buy in the area. OPEN SUN 2-4  
 Robert M. Scott 339-4000-485.5118

**LINCOLN HEIGHTS**  
**4048 COOLIDGE**  
 \$749,000  
 Lovely trad. w/ Mediterranean feel,  
 vaulted beam ceiling in LR, FDR, ran-  
 dom plank flrs, 3bd/2ba, rumpus rm or  
 office, level out to secluded garden and  
 Patio. OPEN SUN 2-4:30 Photos at:  
[carolineandmichelle.com](http://carolineandmichelle.com) 339-8400-339-4554

**LAUREL**  
**3301 NICOL AVENUE**  
 \$549,000  
 Spac. 2bd/1ba w/ FDR, hwdw flrs, LR  
 fireplace, Bonus rooms down - 3rd br, 2nd  
 full bath, 2nd fireplace & separate entrance.  
 Garage, yard w/ brick BBQ & patio.  
 OPEN SUN 2-4  
 David Sykes 339-8400-339-4558

**PARKWOODS**  
**320 CALDECOTT LANE #118**  
 \$539,000  
 Immaculate New hwy flrs, new granite  
 ctrs and more. Sunny corner unit w/  
 two balconies look out to colorful trees.  
 Many amenities. OPEN SUN 2-4:30  
 Michael Harding 339-4000-899.6307

**Pending Sale**  
**28 units, walking distance to Lake Mer-**  
 \$2,650,000  
 ritt. Priced aggressively. Security parking.  
 Mark Attarha 339-4000-339.6300

**New Listing!**  
**Develop. Proj. in heart of Jack London.**  
 \$2,860,000  
 Sq. Zoned for 44 condos or five/work.  
 Mark Attarha 339-4000-339.6300



## Hills Real Estate &amp; Home: THE place to turn for up-to-date East Bay real estate information

481 Jean St. Oakland Open Sunday, April 30, 2-4:30 PM

## Dump the Car!!

Delightful Vintage Craftsman  
Rose Garden Neighborhood

\$675,000



- Sunny and quiet 3+ bedroom, 2 bath home.
- Beautiful Craftsman details to warm and charm you.
- Lovely vistas from living, formal dining, kitchen & deck.
- Large lot, up off the street offers privacy and pleasure.
- Walkable to Grand, Lakeshore, Farmers' Market, cinema, gym, Lake Merritt, Casual Carpool and more.

**Adrienne Nash, CRS**  
Oakland Native, Oakland/Berkeley Specialist  
510-763-4060

Visual Tour + full MLS:  
[www.homesbynash.com](http://www.homesbynash.com)



1307 Norvell Street • El Cerrito

Cozy 3-bedroom, 1.5 bath home near BART and Plaza shops. Large lot, direct access to generous sun-filled backyard with covered deck and hot tub. One-car attached garage with interior access. Hardwood floors throughout underneath carpets. Level-in. Offered at \$525,000



**Mark P. Choi**  
510.381.1116  
[www.markpchoi.com](http://www.markpchoi.com)

Open 2:00 - 5:00  
Sunday, April 30th & May 1st



**marvin gardens**

OPEN APRIL 22 &amp; 23 SAT &amp; SUN 1-4



2581 EL CAMINITO ~ Montclair

Absolutely charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath Piedmont Pines home tucked away on a private tree-laden street. Living room features hardwood flooring and fireplace; airy-open dining area with a wall of windows. Updated kitchen has granite counters and gas range. Spacious master bedroom PLUS two downstairs bedrooms, updated bath and laundry room. Quaint newly-built cottage/storeroom would be an excellent playhouse adjacent to level grass area for family activities. Walk to nearby schools or the village. A sure winner!

OFFERED AT \$789,000



Sandi Cook

925-831-3345

<http://www.sandicookhomes.com>  
sandi@sandicookhomes.com



COLDWELL BANKER

RECENTLY SOLD!

COLDWELL BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

4637 FIELDBROOK ROAD  
Represented the seller-4 offers3170 ROBINSON DRIVE  
Represented the seller-6 offers

KAREN LUM

PRD & H & S Property Specialist  
Sales Associate  
510-339-4776  
[careers.com/karenlum](http://careers.com/karenlum) or [karenlum.com](http://karenlum.com)

COLDWELL BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

JUST LISTED

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00 - 5:00 PM

1528 EXCELSIOR

Clean and bright 2+ Bdrm,  
1 Ba. Bungalow in desirable  
Glenview. Sunny Living Room with  
fireplace, fabulous backyard with  
big deck for outdoor entertaining.  
Main Bedroom has a cozy plus  
room ideal for nursery, home  
office or sitting area. Hardwood  
floors and designer colors.  
Cute, Cute, Cute!

OFFERED AT  
\$560,000



KARYN SELBY MILLER

Realtor  
510-339-4799  
[karynmlr@coldwellbanker.com](http://karynmlr@coldwellbanker.com)  
[www.karynselbymiller.com](http://www.karynselbymiller.com)

COLDWELL BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

COMING SOON

57 SERENO CIRCLE

Light & bright contemporary 2  
bedroom/2 bath townhouse with  
big San Francisco Bay views!  
Includes formal dining room,  
roomy kitchen, fireplace, and a  
cozy loft space with built-ins and  
skylights. Serenely wooded  
Redwood Heights setting.

OFFERED AT  
\$599,000



NAYO FAMILY PARTNERS

Lydia Nayo  
Kelley Nayo-Cliett  
510-339-4728

OPEN HOUSE

OPEN SAT/SUN 2:00 - 4:30 PM

1064 CLARENDON CRESCENT

Crocker Highlands

Bridge views from the Master  
Bedroom deck which overlooks a  
large, level landscaped backyard.  
This remodeled Craftsman home  
features custom wood windows,  
gourmet kitchen,  
attic & basement storage,  
2 car attached garage.

OFFERED AT  
\$1,325,000



JULIE JOYCE

REALTOR®  
510-339-4725  
[julyejoyce@coldwellbanker.com](http://julyejoyce@coldwellbanker.com)

open  
sunday

5670 Weaver Place, Oakland Hills

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Exquisite retreat in Hillcrest Estates. This rare estate sits on over an acre of land and is zoned for horses. The zen-like grounds feature a large koi pond with crushed rock path leading throughout the property. The home has recently been remodeled to create an open floor plan with a spectacular living and dining room. The chef's kitchen is accented with cherrywood cabinets and granite counter tops. The master suite is unbelievable in scale and includes an exquisite bath area with a walk-in shower, huge walk-in closet and a private lanai over looking the grounds.

Offered at \$2,195,000

The GRUBB Co.  
REALTORS  
GRUBBCO.COM

KURT BUCHHOLZ  
Office: 510.339.0400/221  
[buchholz@grubbco.com](mailto:buchholz@grubbco.com)

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Berkeley, CAPrudential  
California Realty

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©2005 JPMorgan Chase & Co. All Rights Reserved.

Gorgeous Contemporary Craftsman

COMING SOON



Beautiful new construction located in private hillside setting of Orinda. This 4 bedroom and 3 bath home boasts detailed craftsmanship with an open beam ceiling, hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen & prvt master suite. Spacious decks with spectacular views and multiple level floor plans creates lots of possibilities! Don't miss!

Offered at \$1,800,000



**Finola Fellner**  
Coldwell Banker  
(925) 890-7807



Keeping track of the latest reale estate activity? Don't miss the Weekly Sales in the Auto Section on D4.

## JUST LISTED

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 PM



711 NORVELL ST.

Inviting & light-filled 4+ BR/3 BA home in desirable El Cerrito location! Vaulted ceilings, spacious master suite retreat with deck & partial Bay view. Hardwood & bamboo floors, newer dual pane windows. Sunny kitchen/dining area opens to large patio & garden.

OFFERED AT  
\$669,000



**TANIA BALAZS-GVISHI**

Coldwell Banker Berkeley  
Realtor Associate  
510 981-3048  
tania.balazs@cbrnocal.com  
www.camoves.com/tania.balazsjacar

## JUST LISTED

OPEN SAT/SUN 2:00 - 4:30 PM



21 CHATSWORTH COURT

Piedmont Pines Mediterranean

Enchanting 2 bedroom classic, plus 2 bonus rooms. Rich architectural details, formal dining room and hardwood floors. Indoor-outdoor living through French doors to deck with view. Updated kitchen and bath.

OFFERED AT  
\$788,000



**JOAN DUFFIELD**

PRELIMINARY OFFER  
\$10,000,000  
Carmoves.com/joan.duffield

## JUST LISTED

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 PM



1084 TRESTLE GLEN ROAD  
CROCKER HIGHLANDS

Delightful 3 bedroom, 2 bath Craftsman with inviting backyard, spacious updated eat-in kitchen, Old World charm, choice location, garage currently used as a sound studio, guest house.

Photo tour at  
www.1084TrestleGlenRoad.com

OFFERED AT  
\$849,000



**DIAN HYMER, CRS**

Associate Broker  
Previews Property Specialist  
#1 Agent in the Oakland/Piedmont office  
510-339-4777

Photo Tours At: dianhymer.com

## JUST LISTED

OPEN SAT/SUN 2:00 - 4:30 PM



1856 CLEMENS ROAD

1930 English Tudor with charm! Vaulted ceiling living room with prominent fireplace. Herringbone patterned hardwood floors in living and formal dining room. Updated kitchen & main bath. 3 bedrooms/1-1/2 baths. Patio/garden.

OFFERED AT  
\$779,000



**RUBY NG, CRS**

PREVIEWS Property Specialist  
Broker Associate  
510-339-4779

camoves.com/ruby-ng or rubyng.com

## SOLD!



## International Open House Month!

During the month of April, we're celebrating 100 years of closings with thousands of openings! Stop by any one of our open homes this weekend during the Coldwell Banker International Open House Month and see the value of 100 years of experience.

### OPEN HOMES



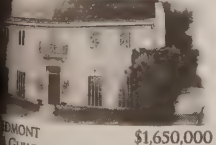
LAUREL  
4007 NATASHA DR.  
\$2,795,000  
SUN 2-4  
55 BA Modern Craftsman. Design w/ Wright. Pool, over .5 acre lot.  
www.4007Natasha.com.  
JAMES & BARBARA MARIENTHAL 510.486.1495



BERKELEY  
1084 TRESTLE GLEN  
\$2,120,000  
SUN 2-4  
55 BA Enchanting Mediterranean in desirable lot w/ membership in adjacent w/ park. Rare find!  
JAMES & BARBARA MARIENTHAL 510.486.1495



BERKELEY  
1084 TRESTLE GLEN  
\$1,975,000  
SUN 2-5  
55 BA The Centerpiece is Liv/Rm/ Kitchen w/ soaring ceiling.  
JOHN DICKY 510.339.4700



BERKELEY  
1084 TRESTLE GLEN  
\$1,650,000  
SUN 2-4:30  
55 BA Refinished hwd floors. Fresh paint-out. Spacious rooms. Coveted location.  
JOHN DICKY 510.339.4700



CROCKER HIGHLANDS  
1084 TRESTLE GLEN  
\$1,325,000  
SAT/SUN 2-4:30  
55 BA Updated Craftsman home with gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors, large landscaped backyard, two car garage.  
JOHN DICKY 510.339.4700

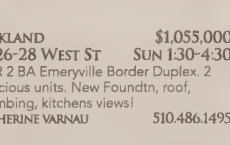
### OPEN HOMES



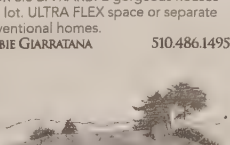
MONTCLAIR  
6117 FAIRLANE DRIVE  
\$1,195,000  
SUN 2-4:30  
4 BR 3 BA New Price! Beautiful contemporary. Living & Family rm with fireplace. Luxurious master suite.  
LIZ BOSTICK 510.339.4700



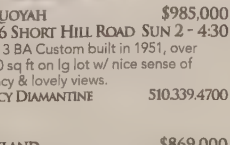
MONTCLAIR  
6655 SOBRANTE ROAD  
\$1,160,000  
SUN 2-4:30  
3 BR 2.5 BA Fabulous newer home with high end finish work.  
DAVID ECKERT 510.339.4700



OAKLAND  
4026-28 WEST ST  
\$1,055,000  
SUN 1:30-4:30  
3 BR 2 BA Emeryville Border Duplex. 2 Spacious units. New Foundn, roof, plumbing, kitchens views!  
CATHERINE VARNAU 510.486.1495



BERKELEY  
2109 BYRON  
\$995,000  
SAT/SUN 2-4  
4+ BR 3.5 BA RARE! 2 gorgeous houses on 1 lot. ULTRA FLEX space or separate conventional homes.  
BOBBIE GIARRATANA 510.486.1495



SEQUOYAH  
4386 SHORT HILL ROAD  
\$985,000  
SUN 2-4:30  
3 BR 3 BA Custom built in 1951, over 3,000 sq ft on lg lot w/ nice sense of privacy & lovely views.  
DARCY DIAMANTINE 510.339.4700



OAKLAND  
5130 LAWTON AVE  
\$869,000  
SUN 2-4  
2+ BR 1 BA Fabulous Rockridge Craftsman on oversized lot. Fully upgraded. Visit 5130Lawton.com.  
HOLLY ROSE 510.486.1495

### OPEN HOMES



MONTCLAIR  
2323 MASTLANDS  
\$849,000  
SUN 2-4:30  
4 BR 2.5 BA Nice San Francisco Bay Views. Gleaming hardwood floors, many tasteful updates.  
DAVID ECKERT 510.339.4700



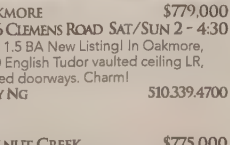
CROCKER HIGHLANDS  
1084 TRESTLE GLEN  
\$849,000  
SUN 2-4:30  
3 BR 2 BA Charming Crocker Highlands Craftsman. Updated kitchen, great yard, studio, guest house.  
DIAN HYMER 510.339.4700



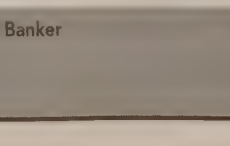
MONTCLAIR  
21 CHATSWORTH  
\$788,000  
SAT/SUN 2-4:30  
2+ BR 2.5 BA Rich architectural detail. French doors to courtyard, deck & views.  
JOAN DUFFIELD 510.339.4700



OAKMORE  
1856 CLEMENS ROAD  
\$779,000  
SAT/SUN 2-4:30  
3 BR 1.5 BA New Listing! In Oakmore, 1930 English Tudor vaulted ceiling LR, arched doorways. Charm!  
RUBY NG 510.339.4700

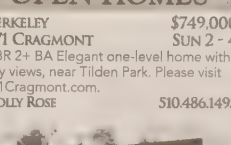


WALNUT CREEK  
1928 PIPER RIDGE COURT  
\$775,000  
SUN 2-5  
3+ BR 2.5 BA Settle into this lg & sunny hm w/ high ceilings & skylts. Don't Miss Office + Sitting Rm.  
GEORGE KARSANT 510.339.4700

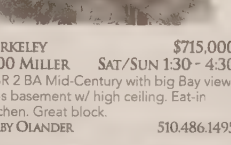


EL CERRITO  
1314 RICHMOND ST.  
\$639,000  
SUN 1-4  
3 BR 2 BA Large Remodeled Classic. Bright, new KIT w/granite, DR, extra storage, closets.  
GENE DELLA MAGGIORA 510.486.1495

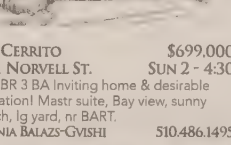
### OPEN HOMES



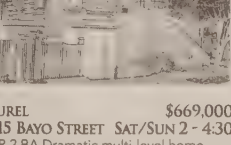
BERKELEY  
471 CRAGMONT  
\$749,000  
SUN 2-4  
3 BR 2+ BA Elegant one-level home with bay views, near Tilden Park. Please visit 471Cragmont.com.  
HOLLY ROSE 510.486.1495



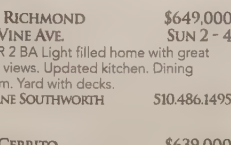
BERKELEY  
1100 MILLER  
\$715,000  
SAT/SUN 1:30-4:30  
3 BR 2 BA Mid-Century with big Bay view plus basement w/ high ceiling. Eat-in kitchen. Great block.  
GARY OLANDER 510.486.1495



EL CERRITO  
711 NORVELL ST.  
\$699,000  
SUN 2-4:30  
4+ BR 3 BA Inviting home & desirable location! Master suite, Bay view, sunny kitchen, lg yard, nr BART.  
TANIA BALAZS-GVISHI 510.486.1495



LAUREL  
3815 BAYO STREET  
\$669,000  
SAT/SUN 2-4:30  
4 BR 2 BA Dramatic multi-level home - Amazing loft w/ partial bay view. Studio near garden, hrdwd.  
MARLENA S. LYONS 510.339.4700

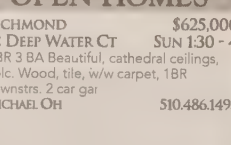


PT. RICHMOND  
77 VINE AVE.  
\$649,000  
SUN 2-4  
2 BR 2 BA Light filled home with great Bay views. Updated kitchen. Dining room. Yard with decks.  
DIANE SOUTHWORTH 510.486.1495



EL CERRITO  
1314 RICHMOND ST.  
\$639,000  
SUN 1-4  
3 BR 2 BA Large Remodeled Classic. Bright, new KIT w/granite, DR, extra storage, closets.  
GENE DELLA MAGGIORA 510.486.1495

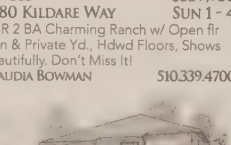
### OPEN HOMES



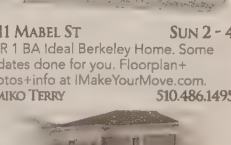
RICHMOND  
22 DEEP WATER CT  
\$625,000  
SUN 1:30-4  
3 BR 3 BA Beautiful, cathedral ceilings, fireplace. Wood, tile, w/w carpet, 1BR downstrs. 2 car gar.  
MICHAEL OH 510.486.1495



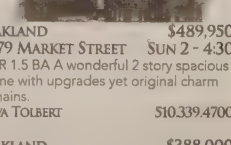
PINOLE  
1082 HAZEL DR.  
\$625,000  
SUN 1-3  
3+ BR 2 BA Sunny, open & spacious w/ Bay View. Large semi-level side yard.  
MICHELLE HOLM 510.486.1495



GLENVIEW  
1528 EXCELSIOR  
\$560,000  
SUN 2-5  
2+ BR 1 BA Clean and bright. Bungalow in desirable Glenview.  
KARYN SELBY MILLER 510.339.4700



PINOLE  
1480 KILDARE WAY  
\$539,950  
SUN 1-4  
3 BR 2 BA Charming Ranch w/ Open flr Plan & Private Yd, Hwd Floors. Shows Beautifully. Don't Miss It!  
CLAUDIA BOWMAN 510.339.4700



2711 MABEL ST  
\$2,111,000  
SUN 2-4  
2 BR 1 BA Ideal Berkeley Home. Some updates done for you. Floorplan+ photos+info at iMakeYourMove.com.  
KIMIKO TERRY 510.486.1495



OAKLAND  
3279 MARKET STREET  
\$489,950  
SUN 2-4:30  
3 BR 1.5 BA A wonderful 2 story spacious home with upgrades yet original charm remains.  
REVA TOLBERT 510.339.4700



OAKLAND  
320 CALDECOTT LN, UNIT 119  
\$388,000  
SUN 2-4  
1 BR 1 BA Luxury condo w/ gas fr pl, grt kitchen, deck, storage. Many amenities, gated community.  
BARR ALLENDORF 510.486.1495

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# Avoid headaches when you move

NAPSI  
Moving to a new city or state can be an exhilarating experience, with opportunities to explore unknown surroundings, develop new relationships with neighbors and create a new home. Moving can also bring undue stress and anxiety when not well coordinated. Making a plan ahead of time using Internet resources can make for an easier transition.

Studies show that people are turning to the Internet in large numbers to make the process of settling into a new community easier. A recent comScore survey revealed that consumers who had moved in the past six months were almost two and a half times more likely to have used local search sites, such as Switchboard.com (www.switchboard.com), than average consumers.

Spending a little time in advance on a Web site that offers local business listings and a mapping feature helps people who are moving to quickly identify where the local coffee shops are, the discount superstore that may come in handy, the closest vet or the nearest pharmacy. Not only can exploring the new neighborhood online be fun, it helps in the preparation of any move and saves time in the long run.

To make life even easier, sites

like Switchboard allow users to plot all the businesses they need to visit on a map and send contact information straight to their cell phone. Having driving directions and phone numbers handy in one location versus on various pieces of paper can reduce the chaos of a move and lower the stress level.

Another useful resource for moving is the United States Postal Service Web site (www.usps.com). It has a change of address form, along with information and timeline for when an address change request should be filed, how long it takes before the request is active and how long mail will be forwarded to the new address.

When changing an address, don't forget to update utilities, credit card companies and magazine subscriptions to ensure timely delivery at the new location. One to two weeks ahead of a move is the best time to arrange the cancellation date of services such as water, garbage, electricity, phone and cable and to set up new services. For other monthly bills and subscriptions, a good rule of thumb is to contact the company when the bill or publication arrives the month before the move.

Moving can be a life-changing event, and sometimes a challenge

— and it's important to evaluate a location to ensure it's the best place for the future. With that in mind, approaching moving with an organized plan and using the best online resources can make relocating a simpler experience than it has been in the past.

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AUTO SECTION ON D4.**

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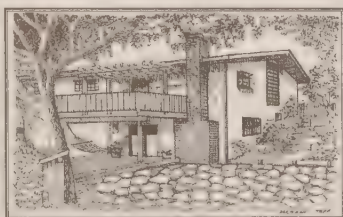
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104 Waterview Dr. 3BR 3BA, approx. 1,675 sq. ft., kitchen with granite counters & tile floors, gleaming hardwood floors, 2 car att. garage, new carpets upstairs. Shows like a model!

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## CONTRA COSTA TIMES MORTGAGE GUIDE

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<b>Mortgage Market</b> 800-837-5626 DRE# 00867662	30-yr Fixed 6.250 ... 0.500 6.392 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375 ... 0.500 6.518 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.990 ... 0.000 6.146 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.125 ... 0.500 6.265 ... 30	Great Purchase, Refinance, Construction, Home Equity, 100% LTV Loans Great Service, Over 25 years in Business
<b>Mt. Diablo Mortgage</b> 925-837-2020 x205 DRE# 00629151	30-yr Fixed 6.250 ... 0.000 6.344 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.625 ... 0.000 6.722 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.250 ... 0.000 6.344 ... 30	10/1 ARM Jumbo 6.500 ... 0.000 6.596 ... 30	Free approval! 24 hours no out of pocket cost loans available appraisal credited at close of escrow
<b>Provident Credit Union</b> 800-632-4600 x2703 LIC# 955-0019	30-yr Fixed 6.625 ... 0.000 6.744 ... 45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.750 ... 0.000 6.813 ... 45	10/1 ARM Jumbo 6.500 ... 0.000 6.662 ... 45	3/1 ARM Jumbo 6.250 ... 0.000 6.310 ... 45	The rates that appear are based on the purchase transaction of \$175,000 for con forming and \$450,000 jumbo loans
<b>Saratoga Bancorp</b> 800-935-6266 DRE# 01220328	30-yr Fixed 6.375 ... 0.000 6.414 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500 ... 0.000 6.515 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.375 ... 0.000 6.976 ... 30	5/1 ARM 6.000 ... 0.000 6.852 ... 30	1.375% ARM. All Credit's Incomes Fast Home Equity Loans! Purch/Refi to 100% saratogabancorp.com
<b>Washington Mutual Home Loan</b> 925-256-7171	30-yr Fixed call ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo call ... 30	10/1 ARM Jumbo call ... 30	Purchases Close in just 10 days! NO POINTS! Complimentary Pre-Approval! NO P.O.I.N.T.S. (925) 256-7171 (866) WAMU-296
<b>Wells Fargo Home Mtg.</b> 925-736-1125	30-yr Fixed call ... 0.000 call ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call ... 0.000 call ... 30	10/1 ARM I/O call ... 0.000 call ... 30	5/1 ARM I/O call ... 0.000 call ... 30	PURCHASE - REFI - INVESTORS - CASHOUT Lock in a LOW Rate Today! - 925-736-1125 >Fast Close - Low/No Fees - Stated Loans
<b>A Superior Mortgage</b> 800-591-4446 DRE# 01351704	30-yr Fixed 6.375 ... 0.000 6.490 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500 ... 0.000 6.590 ... 30	Pay Option ARM 6.375 ... 0.000 6.310 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 6.125 ... 0.000 6.230 ... 30	Open Weekends! Bad Credit OK. *PotNegam Apply online www.ASuperiorMortgage.com
<b>Absolute Mortgage Fund.</b> 888-90-HOMES DOC# 803 A776	30-yr Fixed 6.250 ... 0.000 6.280 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500 ... 0.000 6.520 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 0.000 5.910 ... 30	5/1 ARM 5.750 ... 0.000 5.850 ... 30	LOWEST RATES IN THE INDUSTRY! Free Floater Down Lender fees only \$399! Call 888-90-HOMES
<b>AimLoan.com, A Direct</b> Lender 888-411-4246 DOC# 4130477	30-yr Fixed 6.250 ... 0.000 6.309 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375 ... 0.125 6.430 ... 30	5/1 ARM 5.875 ... 0.125 7.011 ... 30	7/1 ARM Jumbo 6.125 ... 0.125 6.888 ... 30	Open 7 days a week, www.aimloan.com, Informative website w/current rates/fees *Higher Fees Apply
<b>Amerisave Mortgage Corp.</b> 877-464-5218 DOC# 8038592	30-yr Fixed 6.125 ... 0.750 6.338 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250 ... 0.750 6.375 ... 30	3/1 ARM 5.625 ... 0.581 7.202 ... 30	5/1 ARM 5.875 ... 0.536 7.029 ... 30	www.amerisave.com Best rates & lowest fees guarantee or we pay \$300! *Qualify & receive -50% off current lender fees!
<b>Cal-State Funding</b> 800-883-5363 DRE# 00874441	30-yr Fixed 6.375 ... 0.000 6.410 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.625 ... 0.000 6.660 ... 30	10/1 ARM Jumbo 6.625 ... 0.000 6.660 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.500 ... 0.000 6.540 ... 30	We can fund any type of loan, call us for any loan questions 800 883-5363
<b>CMG Mortgage Services</b> 800-958-5339 DRE# 01370755	30-yr Fixed 6.125 ... 1.375 6.305 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375 ... 1.000 6.493 ... 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 5.500 ... 1.250 6.635 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.750 ... 1.375 5.899 ... 30	OPEN SAT & SUN. QUICK QUALIFIER OR NO INCOME LOANS AVAILABLE. NO POINTS LOANS AVAILABLE.
<b>Countrywide Home Loans</b> 510-444-4806	30-yr Fixed call ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo call ... 30	Stated Pick A Pmt call ... 30	5/1 ARM I/O Jumbo call ... 30	PURCHASE SPECIAL 4 APRIL \$1000 CREDIT! 10DAY CLOSE. 100% FINANCING NO BROKERAGE! OPEN WEEKENDS-STATED INCOME PROG.
<b>Countrywide Home Lns.</b> 888-342-9226 DOC# 00351782	30-yr Fixed 6.375 ... 1.000 6.801 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.625 ... 1.000 6.789 ... 30	30 Yr Fxd Int Only 6.750 ... 1.000 6.915 ... 30	Pay Option ARM 1.250* ... 1.000 6.280 ... 30	Call 888-342-CAN to talk to your LOCAL CONTRA COSTA BRANCHES. *Contra Costa rates **PotNegam
<b>ditech.com</b> 800-616-8208 DOC# 8132004	30-yr Fixed 6.000 ... 2.000 6.318 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250 ... 2.000 6.509 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.625 ... 2.000 6.144 ... 30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625 ... 2.000 6.551 ... 30	Se habla Espanol. Last another loan to ditech!
<b>Downey Savings &amp; Loan</b> 866-308-2966 DOC# 8037471	30-yr Fixed 6.125 ... 1.750 6.324 ... 45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375 ... 1.750 6.557 ... 45	1-mo COFI ARM 1.950* ... 1.000 6.334 ... 45	30 Year No Neg ARM 4.825 ... 1.000 7.053 ... 45	Direct lender since 1957 *Pot neg am Great rates and FAST decisions Apply online at www.downeysavings.com
<b>First Blackhawk Financial</b> 800-796-MARY DRE# 01144056	30-yr Fixed 6.375 ... 0.000 6.419 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500 ... 0.000 6.527 ... 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.125 ... 0.000 6.165 ... 30	7/1 ARM Jumbo 6.250 ... 0.000 6.280 ... 30	JUMBO AND SUPER JUMBO SPECIALIST Call 7 days per week 1(800) 796-MARY MARY LIGHTTELL
<b>GMAC Mortgage</b> 925-946-4830 DOC# 00755312	30-yr Fixed 5.825 ... 1.500 5.816 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.825 ... 1.500 5.795 ... 30	7/1 ARM Jumbo 6.375 ... 1.000 6.513 ... 30	CalHFA 5yr int onl 6.125* ... 1.500 6.307 ... 30	Construction, renovation, second homes Fixed rate seconds, lot loans *CalHFA rates-FTBH/income restrictions
<b>Los Gatos Lending Connection</b> 866-660-0957 DRE# 01220999	30-yr Fixed 6.250 ... 0.375 6.340 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375 ... 0.125 6.417 ... 30	30x417k2ndHom 6.375 ... 0.000 6.430 ... 30	40 tx 417K CRA 97 6.125 ... 0.000 6.228 ... 30	Total closing fees \$2090+Title Insurance NO Broker, Lender, Commitment, Lock of Lrg Admin fee outside of Pts, *STATED
<b>Main Line-Tavistock Mtg.</b> 877-876-3600 DOC# 803 A784	30-yr Fixed 6.250 ... 0.000 6.320 ... 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500 ... 0.000 6.528 ... 30	20-yr Fixed 6.125 ... 0.000 6.170 ... 30	15-yr Fixed 5.875 ... 0.000 5.960 ... 30	BEST RATE AND FEE GUARANTEE! NO APPRAISAL FEE. MAINLINEINTERNATIONAL.COM NO RATE LOCK FEE - OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
<b>Mid Atlantic Capital</b> 888-638-1819 DOC# 8038609	30-yr Fixed 6.000 ... 1.875 6.170 ... 35	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.250 ... 1.500 6.390 ... 35	15-yr Fixed 5.625 ... 1.750 5.920 ... 35	MTA 1.250* ... 0.000 4.890 ... 30	A-B-C-D CREDIT OK NO DOC LOANS TO \$1M LOANS TO \$4M STATED TO 100% OPEN 7 DAYS INT ONLY AVAILABLE *pot neg am

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If you would like to be included in this Mortgage Guide, please call 781-276-1711

House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section first





**393 HAMPTON ROAD \$3,595,000**  
Gracious Mediterranean on large lot with beautiful gardens. 4BR/4BA. Formal dining room, den, family room off kitchen. Pool. Great home for all types of entertaining. Matthew W. Heafey  
**70 LAKEVIEW AVE \$2,100,000**  
This charming centrally located home has it all. Beautiful original details, large formal rooms, den, updated kitchen with adjoining family room, extra large laundry room & private garden. Mindy Scott

## PIEDMONT OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



**180 SANDRINGHAM ROAD \$2,195,000**  
Mediterranean perfection, remodeled throughout. 4BR/4.5BA w/au pair suite. Beautiful details, stately formal rooms, gourmet kitchen & cul de sac location. Mavis Delacroix



**1165 HARVARD ROAD \$1,335,000**  
Wonderful 20's architecture, 3BR/2BA, fabulous remodeled kitchen, French doors to patio/garden. Super bonus space. Near schools, shops, restaurants, and Farmers' Market. Judith Cain  
**314 JEROME AVENUE \$1,250,000**  
Enchanting 3+BR/2BA. Elegant formal rooms & cheery eat-in kitchen, level-out to entertaining deck & garden. Great location near Piedmont schools & San Francisco transportation. Linda McClain

## OAKLAND - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



**5670 WEAVER PLACE \$2,195,000**  
A rare retreat on over an acre, zoned for horses, remodeled throughout, Zen-like grounds w/large koi pond. Spectacular master suite. Chef's kitchen w/cherrywood & granite. Kurt Buchholz  
**95 WESTMINSTER DRIVE \$2,150,000**  
Dramatic & sophisticated Claremont Pines home, complete w/enchanting formal rooms, expansive kitchen, family room & home office. Outdoor terrace, gardens & pool. Ford/Plowright



**1077 ARDMORE AVENUE \$1,275,000**  
Gracious Crocker Highlands traditional w/4+BR/2+BA upstairs. Spacious living room w/adjacent study. Formal dining room w/original built-ins. City views. Karen Starr  
**5939 ALMADEN LANE \$1,249,000**  
Fantastic park-like setting for this special Montclair 3+BR/2+BA. Spacious light filled open floor plan & family room. Near schools & Montclair Village shopping & dining. Elizabeth Dickson



**4327 DETROIT AVENUE \$775,000**  
Charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath level-in traditional in Redwood Heights. Spacious family room opens to level lawn and gardens, eat-in kitchen and random plank floors. Bettina Balestrieri  
**62 SERENO CIRCLE \$699,000**  
Contemporary two level townhome. Spacious 2BR/2.5BA with a private courtyard & 2-car garage. Close to shopping, transportation, and park trails. Debbi DiMaggio



**984 LONGRIDGE ROAD \$1,750,000**  
Completely renovated Crocker Highlands 4+BR/3.5BA an with exceptional in-law/au pair space. Kitchen open to great family room. Master w/jacuzzi tub. Michelle Winchester  
**6201 VIRGO ROAD \$1,695,000**  
Stylish award winning design contemporary with Bay & bridge views! 4BR incl. master suite with fireplace, 3.5BA. Great outdoor living w/deck & level lawn. Steve Michaelides



**6353 WOOD DRIVE \$1,195,000**  
Gracious, lovely & well-maintained mid-century contemporary w/Bay view & level gardens. 4BR/3+BA w/plus rooms & wonderful flexible floor plan! Julie Gardner

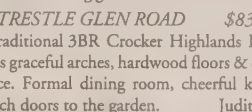


**274 VERNON STREET \$619,000**  
Stylish California bungalow located in popular Adams Point! Close to Lake Merritt, restaurants and transportation. Completely remodeled with chic designer style and details! Hope Broderick  
**2875 GLASCOCK ST, #105 \$605,000**  
Stunning two-story loft w/2BR/2BA, versatile floor plan, spacious, great light, drama & private patio. Close to estuary boardwalk, Alameda Market and Park Street shops. Anne Van Dyke



**6963 BUCKINGHAM BLVD. \$1,495,000**  
Mediterranean w/stunning Bay views. 4BR/3.5BA. Open floor plan w/grand formal rooms, gourmet kitchen/family room & patio. Au pair/office space. Adam Berta  
**110 SHERIDAN ROAD \$1,490,000**  
Exceptional Upper Rockridge custom-built home w/ spacious light-filled rooms & open floor plan. 4BR/3.5BA, Gourmet kitchen, recreation/media room & study. Sherry Benninger  
**129 CALVERT COURT \$1,395,000**  
On a unique private drive sits this 4+BR/3BA contemporary on over an acre. Renovated kitchen, South Bay views, soaring ceilings, office & two family rooms! Dana Cohen

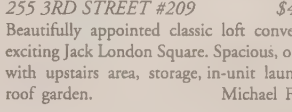
**1061 HUBERT ROAD \$1,085,000**  
Enjoy the friendly neighborhood surrounding this charming English style home, pretty formal living/dining rooms, paneled family room, office, updated kitchen and inviting gardens. Mindy Scott  
**1069 TRESTLE GLEN ROAD \$839,000**  
This traditional 3BR Crocker Highlands English features graceful arches, hardwood floors & elegant fireplace. Formal dining room, cheerful kitchen, & French doors to the garden. Judith Cain



**657 CAPELL STREET \$595,000**  
Extremely charming traditional home on a large corner lot. Gracious rooms w/lovely windows & hardwood floors. Two spacious bedrooms & one remodelled bath. Extensive garden. Anian Pettit Tunney



**1206 TRESTLE GLEN ROAD \$829,000**  
Move right in to this charming 20's classic. Formal rooms w/original trim, artisan tile, inlaid oak flooring, deck & landscaped garden, 2BR/1BA +family room! Nancy Lehrkind



**255 3RD STREET #209 \$485,000**  
Beautifully appointed classic loft conversion in exciting Jack London Square. Spacious, open plan with upstairs area, storage, in-unit laundry and roof garden. Michael Friedman  
**247 4TH STREET #206 \$425,000**  
The perfect urban live-work loft located in the heart of Jack London Square. Huge open space and sleeping loft. Best value loft for the space and location. Ed Kuo

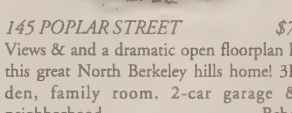
## BERKELEY & ALAMEDA OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



**80 GRAVATT DRIVE \$2,450,000**  
Romantic new Mediterranean. Alder doors & cabinets, rich hues of granite, exquisite kitchen/family room, media room & panoramic Bay & bridge views. 4BR/3.5BA. Debra Dryden  
**6 NOGALES STREET \$1,050,000**  
Walter Ratcliff one-level Architectural treasure (circa 1909). Redwood interiors. Two bedrooms, two baths, study + finished attic. Enchanting garden. Superb location! Faye Keogh

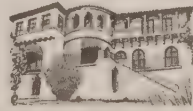


**600 ARLINGTON AVENUE \$860,000**  
Captivating Cape Cod! Exquisite 2+BR/1.5BA w/ superb architectural details, dazzling remodeled kitchen & baths, Bay & Mt. Tam views, sunny deck, patio & gardens - & more! The Ratcliffes



**145 POPLAR STREET \$795,000**  
Views & a dramatic open floorplan highlight this great North Berkeley hills home! 3BR/3BA, den, family room. 2-car garage & quiet neighborhood. Bebe McRae  
**3422 REDHOOK LANE \$585,000**  
ALAMEDA. Bay Farm Island gem! Spacious 3BR/2.5BA townhome in lush garden setting. Light filled living room opens to private courtyard. Remodeled, stylish kitchen! Helene Barkin

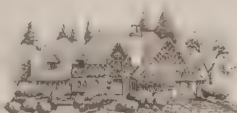
## SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT



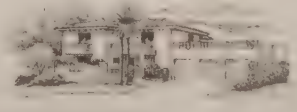
**PIEDMONT ESTATE \$7,850,000**  
Sited on nearly a half acre of elegant formal gardens, this exquisite Albert Farr 6BR/5++BA estate (circa 1915) has been graciously restored & updated. Mindy Scott

**LIKE A PRIVATE PARK \$2,500,000**  
BERKELEY. Adjoining private park w/pool & tennis, this elegant Mediterranean enjoys grand architecture & Bay views! 5BR/5.5BA, family room & level entry from private drive! Bebe McRae

**MONTCLAIR \$1,350,000**  
OAKLAND. Beautiful Jarvis-designed traditional w/ enchanting outdoor spaces! 4BR/2.5BA, kitchen/family room open to gardens. Bebe McRae  
**ROCKRIDGE CRAFTSMAN \$1,225,000**  
OAKLAND. Custom Craftsman shingle by Jarvis Architects. Exquisite kitchen/family room. Beautiful woodwork, built-in hutch & bookshelves. Wisteria covered trellis & level garden. Ed Kuo



**PIEDMONT TUDOR \$6,500,000**  
This elegant Miller-Warnecke Tudor sits on almost 1/2 acre of beautifully landscaped grounds and includes gorgeous formal rooms, vaulted kitchen/FR, 5BR, library & 'club' room. Mindy Scott  
**PIEDMONT CLASSIC \$2,680,000**  
Bright and spacious traditional w/large level lawn & play area! 4BR/4.5BA, formal dining, den, family room & garage w/interior access. Bebe McRae



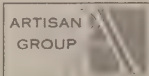
**PANORAMIC VIEW HOME \$1,895,000**  
OAKLAND. ONE of a kind setting over looking the park w/panoramic views. Spacious home w/ dramatic living room, formal dining room, family room & private outdoor spaces. Kurt Buchholz



**STYLISH MID-CENTURY \$775,000**  
KENSINGTON. Enjoy the Bay views from this perfect mid-century 3BR/2BA w/great room, sunroom, family room, patio & gardens. The Ratcliffes

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SMART TIPS FOR:

# Style

READER'S DIGEST

Common themes

What's the difference between an impersonal room and one that you couldn't imagine belonging to anyone but its owner? "Personality comes through loud and clear," says design expert Chris Casson Madden.

What's the difference between an impersonal room and one that you couldn't imagine belonging to anyone but its owner? Personality.

den, author of "A Room of Her Own: Women's Personal Spaces" and other books.

"A Room of Her Own" looks at the distinctive personal spaces of women across America. Although each room is unique — a true reflection of its owner — common themes can be found among them. Madden lists some of the common elements among the intimate and very personal rooms of these women:

- Favorite artwork, such as antique prints
- Topiaries or plants
- Unusual baskets
- A comfortable chair or chaise lounge
- Personal collections, such as kilim boxes
- Old family photographs
- Unusual picture frames
- Candles
- Throw pillows
- Coffee table books
- Fragrant oils or incense
- Favorite postcards
- Interesting fabrics used as throws or chair covers
- A teapot, cup and a favorite tea

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John Chang  
Realtor



**2101 SHORELINE DR., #290, ALAMEDA**  
2 BD/1.5 BA, 1110 sq. ft. Two-story bay view townhouse w/ new Italian tile floor, wood-burning fireplace in living rooms & new carpet in the master BD. Refrigerator, stove, microwave are new. Walk-in Shower & new large capacity washer and dryer. **\$548,000**



**145 LAWSON RD., KENSINGTON**  
Single-family house, 4 BD & 4 BA, 3,908 sq. ft. Unique custom house w/ Panoramic S. F. bay view from decks and living area. Fresh paint, new wall-to-wall carpets & dual pane windows. gourmet eat-in kitchen opens to backyard w/ 4-person spa & garden area. Large living area w/ master suite & large walk-in closets. **\$1,469,000**

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## open sunday



**129 Calvert Court, Oakland**

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Unique Montclair property. Four bedroom, three bath contemporary with renovated kitchen with Bay views on over an acre.

Offered at **\$1,395,000**  
129calvert.com



**4327 Detroit Avenue, Oakland**

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Charming bedroom, two bath Redwood traditional with level entry and large room opening out to lawn and garden.

Offered at **\$775,000**  
4327detroit.com

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DANA COHEN  
Office: 510.339.0400/348  
dcohen@grubbco.com

## LOFT STYLE CONDO IN A VILLAGE



Open Sunday,  
April 30th  
2006  
2-4:30

**373 40th St. #3, Oakland**

A few blocks from Piedmont Ave. & BART, behind a security gate, is this handsome, 2 level, loft-style condo, one of 9, in a unique community that feels like a village. A common area of garden, koi pond, pizza oven, barbecue & parking extends the interior space outdoors. 1 + bd., 1.5 ba., private patio, radiant heat, skylights & "green" materials.



### Norah Brower

510.524.9888 x 26  
norah@berkhills.com  
photo tour at www.berkhills.com

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REAL ESTATE

This week's  
Open Home  
Guide can  
be found  
on B24.

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**BERKELEY 510.899.8000**



**A Home for the Connoisseur.** Private, elegant Mediterranean at the end of a cul-de-sac with exquisite views of San Francisco and the Bay. Fabulous kitchen. **\$3,300,000**

**ORINDA 925.258.1111**



**Now Completed.** This 5bd home is on over an acre in the heart of Sleepy Hollow. From the formal courtyard entry with fireplace to the outstanding pool. **\$3,149,000**

**ORINDA 925.258.1111**



**Premier Gated View Estate.** Premier Orinda Country Club gated view estate on 1.12+-/-ac. 5+bd/3+ba home with eat-in kitchen, guest unit, sauna, pool and spa. **\$2,799,000**

**LAFAYETTE 925.258.1111**



**One of a Kind.** Endless possibilities. Package includes premium lot, Lafayette schools and Tahoe setting. Call for proposed design which feature 4850+-/-sf. **\$2,250,000**

**LAFAYETTE 925.258.1111**



**Build Your Dream Home.** Custom 5 bedroom with flat, pool size lot in Tahoe setting. Top of the line components and finishes. 4850+-/-sf design plan. **\$2,150,000**

**BERKELEY 510.899.8000**



**North Berkeley Tudor.** Distinctive 5+bd/3ba home on a level lot with breathtaking bay views. Built by Miller & Warnicke. Gracious formal LR/DR, spa, 2 FPs, hardwoods. **\$1,950,000**

**MORAGA 925.934.1111**



**Moraga At It's Finest.** Traditional home at the end of a cul-de-sac. Home has 5 bedrooms including 2 downstairs suites, a large kitchen, terrific yard and pool. **\$1,475,000**

**LAFAYETTE 510.899.8000**



**Coming Soon.** Beautifully updated 4bd/3ba with 2700+-/-sf, open, filled, floor plan. Close-in neighborhood pool and court nearby. **\$1,350,000**

**BERKELEY 925.251.1111**



**Convenient Location.** This striking 4bd/2ba Berkeley Hills home on two levels has been restored to a practically brand new home. New contemporary design. **\$950,000**

**ALAMEDA 925.258.1111**



**Ultimate in Privacy and Seclusion.** Restored Victorian close to schools, shops, beach, public transportation. Enormous bonus room. Gourmet kitchen, lovely garden. **\$875,000**

**OAKLAND 510.899.8000**



**Quintessential Hiller Highlands.** Immaculate townhome with South Bay views. Newer interior paint, carpet, hardwood flooring, lighting, stainless steel appliances. **\$848,888**

**SAN LEANDRO 510.899.8000**



**Remodeled Bay-O-Vista.** Newly remodeled 4bd/2ba home with 2089+-/-sf, new kitchen, and lighting, flooring, laundry room, and interior doors. **\$820,000**

**MARTINEZ 925.258.1111**



**Brittany Hills Beauty.** Newer 4bd/3ba home. Great kitchen/FR with fireplace. Soaring ceilings. Updated colors. Landscaped front and back yards. Near park. **\$749,999**

**BRENTWOOD 925.258.1111**



**Le Petit Chateau.** 4bd/2.5ba estate home at Rose Garden. 2378+-/-sf with vaulted ceilings, living room, formal DR, upgraded kitchen with eating area, FR, great backyard. **\$709,900**

**BRENTWOOD 925.258.1111**



**Brentwood Charming.** 4bd/3ba Garin Ranch home. Looks and feels brand new. 2700+-/-sf on cul-de-sac. Open floor plan includes vaulted ceilings, tile floors, LR and DR. **\$644,900**

**OAKLAND 510.899.8000**



**New Urban Chic Condo.** New 1bd/1ba condo. First resale in sold out Veranda building. Hardwood finishes include stainless appliances, hardwood, halogen lights. **\$380,000**

ORINDA 2 Theatre Square 925.258.1111 | MONTCLAIR 6116 LaSalle Avenue 510.899.8000



ere's the  
coop on  
ow realty  
gents get  
aid

ome sales have been hot  
throughout California for quite a  
now. Many people assume  
all real estate agents are get-  
ting rich. But, according to the Na-  
tional Association of Realtors, a  
Realtor earned \$37,600 in 2002.  
down from \$39,300 in 2002.  
Real estate agents are in-  
dependent contractors, who are  
not employees. When their sales close es-  
sentially usually receive no up-  
compensation for their efforts.



BOB LUCIDO  
Guest Columnist

When a deal falls through, the  
agent makes nothing for his or her

The number of licensed Real-  
estate agents also increased. The NAR  
reports that there are now 1.25 mil-  
lion in the field, an increase of 63  
percent since 2000. This means that  
there are more agents vying for  
each transaction. The result? A  
decrease in the number of transac-  
tions completed per agent declines, and  
though prices are going up, the  
income for the typical agent is low.

In a conventional home sale, the  
agent pays the commission. It is ne-  
gotiable, but is usually around six  
percent of the sale price. The  
broker typically shares the com-  
mission on a 50-50 basis with  
the broker who finds a buyer for  
the property. The agents who  
work directly with buyers and sell-  
ers receive a second commission  
arrangement between them  
and the broker. So, the agent most  
likely is earning six percent, but  
is very lucky to earn one and  
a half percent.

When you're selling a house  
for \$100,000 and you have agreed  
with your listing broker six per-  
cent, the sale price as compen-  
sation for completing the sale. The  
commission in this case is \$18,000.  
If your broker is working with the  
seller, your house, that broker  
will receive \$9,000 at closing, leav-  
ing \$9,000 for your broker.

The agent's broker deducts ex-  
penses to pay overhead costs be-  
fore paying the agent. Although the  
agent gets between 80 percent -  
85 percent, and 70 percent - 30 per-  
cent, most new agents start each  
year with a 50-50 split that improves  
as the agent sells more homes  
each year.

Independent contractors, real  
estate agents pay out of their own  
pockets for their business ex-  
penses. These expenses usually in-  
clude: advertising, health insurance,  
rent, and other expenses. Insur-  
ance is the Multiple Listing  
Service's membership to the Cali-  
fornia Association of Realtors, busi-  
ness cards, a decent car, gaso-  
line, cell phone and critical  
liability and advertising costs.

Real estate agents are also responsible for  
paying taxes, health insurance,  
and maintaining retirement plans. One bro-  
ker calculated that he would have  
to work over \$200,000 in gross  
sales a year to equal the \$100,000  
annual salary his son would receive  
when all the benefits were  
added in.

Not every kind of people would  
want to work long hours with no  
guaranteed compensation, under  
the threat of deals falling  
through. Most have a strong entre-  
preneurial spirit and love the chal-  
enge of putting deals together.

Real estate agents also have a  
responsibility to help people when  
they are going through what can  
be a confusing and emotional  
process. Some believe in the  
American dream and want to help  
others with the desire to own their  
home.

Since nights and weekends are  
busy times, many volunteer in  
their communities to make a better  
place for the rest of us. The next  
time you meet an agent at an open  
house, ask one too many  
questions about your real  
estate search, let your guard down  
a bit. Most Realtors are just like  
the rest of us. They're working  
hard, and only dreaming of get-  
ting rich.

Bob Lucido is a member of the  
National Presidents Club and a li-  
censed California Realtor. Contact  
him at Main Pines Realty, 1646 N.  
Alameda Blvd., Plaza level, Suite  
100, Walnut Creek, 925-330-3052,  
or to blucido@apr.com.

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**2753 Buena Vista Way, Berkeley**  
By Appointment  
W.C. Hays 1914 Florentine Palazzo, w/wonderful architectural  
details, incredible location, fabulous floor plan, updated, upgraded,  
great light, great indoor/outdoor, lush landscaped garden,  
spectacular views & in mint condition. 4 bdrms, 3.5 baths include  
master & guest suites, loggia & lovely galley kitchen  
**Norah Brower x26 \$1,795,000**



**2035 Los Angeles Ave., North Berkeley**  
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00  
New Listing! This 1916 home has 4 bedrooms and 2 baths. The  
living room boasts box-beamed ceilings, and the dining room has  
plate rails and built-ins. Upgrades include a new foundation, dual  
pane windows, updated kitchen and an elevator from street. GG  
views & flat rear yard  
**Bill & Tracy x33 \$1,100,000**



**5829 Colby Street, Rockridge District**  
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 5:00  
Gorgeous 4 bdrms, 1.5 baths plus detached light-filled studio with  
kitchen and bath. Original details, fireplace, hardwood floors, built-  
ins. Updated kitchen with stainless appliances. Backyard deck &  
patio. Near BART, College Ave. shops & restaurants.  
**Chris & Sandy x54 \$899,000**



**1142 High Court, Berkeley**  
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30  
New Listing! Wonderful, quiet hills location near U.C. & the Rose  
Garden. 4-bdrm, 3-bath home includes 2 bdrms in the spacious  
main area plus a 3rd bdrm/office with a separate entrance as well as  
a separate au pair unit. Approx. 2,270 sq. ft. Lots of potential  
Needs a foundation and updating  
**Jane Allen x23 \$625,000**



**515 Stannage Ave., Albany**  
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30  
New Listing! Delightful, charming & just remodeled 2-bdrm, 1-  
bath home constructed by renowned builder C. M. MacGregor.  
New paint inside and out, refinished oak floors, new Pella  
double-pane windows, remodeled kitchen & bath, fireplace, sunny  
backyard with deck  
**Nancy Mueller x20 \$549,000**



**373 - 40th Street, #3, Oakland**  
Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30  
New Listing! 2-level, loft-style condo in a unique commun-  
ity behind a security gate with shared common garden area. 1 + bdrm.  
1.5 bath, simple, elegant architecture with radiant heat & use of  
green materials. 4 blocks to Piedmont Avenue and close to BART  
**Norah Brower x26 \$549,000**

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**EL CERRITO**  
6789 Glen Mawr Sun 1-5 \$649,000  
Exquisite El Cerrito Hills remodel, spacious 3  
bedroom, 2 bath, San Francisco & Golden Gate Views,  
fireplace, wood floors, landscaped yard, close to  
BART  
**Judy Swaby 510.339.0227**



**HERCULES**  
212 Glenwood Sun 1-4 \$315,000  
1 bedroom, 1 bath condo with loft, high ceilings, walk-  
in closet, sunny and bright, oak laminate floors  
through-out. 2nd Floor Unit  
**Jim Silver 925.639.1571**



**MORAGA**  
118 Ascot Court #B Sat & Sun 1-4 \$469,000  
Cathedral ceiling, 2 bedroom, 2 bath spacious condo,  
1,233 sq. ft. +/-, new countertops, paint. Deck &  
views. Tranquil location. A must see!  
**Alison & Isabelle Zamanian 925.708.4915/925.352.4133**



**OAKLAND**  
Great Opportunity \$695,000  
Beautiful Rockridge charmer 3 bd / 1ba, large bonus  
rm, formal dining rm, fireplace, hrdwd flrs, bay  
windows, eat-in kit, high ceilings. Close to College  
Ave. BART  
**Judy Swaby 510.339.0227**



**OAKLAND**  
Charming! \$635,000  
3 bedroom, 2 bath. Peaceful & private location with  
loads of potential! Adjoining lot also available for  
purchase. Call for more information  
**Stella Tsakonas 925.878.6603**



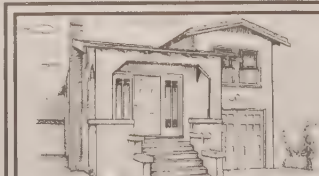
**OAKLAND**  
4519 Shafter Ave. Sun 1-5 \$599,000  
Newer home in Trendy Temescal. 2 bedroom, 2 bath  
w/ huge 2-car garage & private yard! Close to  
everything including Rockridge!  
**Michelle Ford 925.352.5527**



**OAKLAND**  
5238 Leona St. Sun 1-4 \$479,000  
Unique 1 bedroom, 1 bath home with creek side  
setting. Huge deck, large lot, new paint, carpet & tile  
flooring & more! Call agent for more details.  
**Sandra Thomas 925.253.7051**



**OAKLAND**  
Great Opportunity \$415,000  
Immaculate 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, wood floors,  
stainless appliances, granite kitchen & bath. 788 sq.  
ft. +/- Call for more details.  
**Janette Licata 925.998.1069**



**OAKLAND**  
Pending \$369,000  
Beautiful remodeled traditional 2 bedroom, 1 bath  
hardwood floors, fireplace, eat-in kitchen, landscaped  
huge yard, full basement attached garage. Great!  
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# Quiet title lawsuit can clear title of missing owner

**Dear Bob:** I am a real estate broker with an opportunity to obtain a listing on a beautiful house. But there is one little problem. The seller says her boyfriend moved out about 15 years ago and she hasn't heard from him since. When I checked the official title records, I see the seller and the boyfriend (with different last names) hold the title. The seller says they were never married. Is there any way this house can be sold now? The seller has paid all the mortgage payments since the boy friend disappeared 15 years ago. —Evelyn R.

**Dear Evelyn:** As a real estate agent, you were very wise to check the title before listing that house for sale. From your description, it appears the title is unmarketable unless

the missing boy friend can be found. The legal solution is for the mom to bring a quiet title lawsuit. Depending on the exact facts, her attorney can best advise what legal steps to take, such as hiring an investigator and publishing legal notices of the pending lawsuit to clear the title.

If due diligence is used to locate the missing boy friend, and if the court is satisfied he is either dead, cannot be located, or has no title interest in the house, then the court can order the title "quieted" in the seller's name so she can sell marketable title.

**Dear Bob:** Please give me more details about "stepped-up basis."

—Elmer B.

**Dear Elmer:** When real or personal property is inherited, the heir

receives it with a new "stepped-up basis" of market value on the date of the decedent's death.

Suppose you inherit a house for which the owner paid \$100,000. But at the time of her death, it is worth \$300,000. Your new stepped-up basis will therefore be \$300,000, the fair market value on the date of death.

It is better to inherit property than to receive it as a gift before the owner's death. Stepped-up basis is the major reason.

In this example, if the homeowner gave you her house before death, as the donee you would take over the donor's low \$100,000 adjusted-cost basis. If you then sold it for its \$300,000 market value, you would have a \$200,000 taxable gain.

However, if you instead inherit that house after the owner's death, your stepped-up basis is the \$300,000 market value on the date of death so you can then sell it for \$300,000 with no tax due. For more details, please consult your tax adviser.

**Dear Bob:** I am a widow homeowner having a hard time making financial ends meet. My daughters keep telling me I am sitting on a "cash cow," meaning my house. They keep telling me to get a re-

verse mortgage. But I recall you said reverse mortgages aren't always a good idea. If I take out a reverse mortgage, does the bank own my house? —Kay H.

**Dear Kay:** To qualify for a senior citizen reverse mortgage, you must be at least 62 and own your house or condo. If you have a small mortgage that is all right because part of the reverse mortgage proceeds can be used to pay it off, so you won't have any more mortgage payments.



ROBERT BRUSS

Contrary to untrue reverse mortgage lenders' "own" your home. Your reverse mortgage lender or security interest in a regular mortgage.

See BRUSS, Page

## open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A captivating Cape Cod! Exquisite two + bedrooms, one-and-one-half baths with superb architectural details, dazzling remodeled kitchen & baths, Bay & Mt. Tamalpais views, sunny deck, patio, gardens - & more!

Offered at \$860,000

600 Arlington Avenue, Berkeley

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OFFICE: 652.2133/429

johnandjudith@grubbco.com



## A sampling of our current listings:

### San Pablo

Cute 3bd/1ba home -- hardwood floors, new double pane windows, tiled kitchen and bath. Roof is 5 years old. White picket fence front yard and many fruit trees in backyard \$425,000

### San Francisco -- Mission

Beautiful 3-unit Edwardian. 2 bdr units, wonderfully updated 3rd top floor unit with views to Twin Peaks. Ideal investment or as TICs (two units vacant at COE). \$1,795,000

### Mill Valley

Charming 4 bd, 1 ba home in popular Sycamore Park close to schools, rec center, downtown & more. Refinished floors and new paint inside and outside facade. Use as is or bring your imagination. There's lots of potential. \$950,000



Prudential  
California Realty

Jim Hedges

manager

jfuntonjim@aol.com

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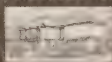


2241 Market St  
San Francisco



2200 Union St  
San Francisco

and our newest location!



221 Caledonia St  
Sausalito

## open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This exceptional four-year-old custom-built home features spacious light-filled rooms and an open floor plan, perfect for entertaining or private enjoyment. Dramatic spaces and soaring ceilings accent the striking aesthetics of this stunning home. Four bedrooms, three and a half baths, handsome study and recreation/media room. Offered at \$1,490,000



110 Sheridan Road  
Upper Rockridge

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SHERRY BENNINGER

Office: 510.339.0400/240

sherrybenninger@grubbco.com

sherrybenninger.com

## Open Saturday & Sunday

1295 Edge Drive, Oakmore New Home



OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1-4:30 PM. 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath, 1930's classic home with great living room, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, yet updated for today's casual living, with a remodeled open kitchen/dining area, French doors to the view deck, great room with fireplace or bedroom for au pair suite, large flat patio, garden with fruit trees. This house is a sweet spot and is much larger than it looks from the outside!

Offered at \$895,000



JANIS MEEK

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Oakland Hills  
\$1,895,000

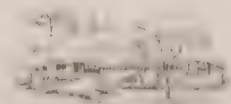
Open

4+BR/3BA. San Francisco, Golden Gate, Bay Bridge, & Mt. Tam are sensational from every angle of this 2+ acre, ultra-private retreat. Mediterranean & Mission elements create a 4,700 sq. ft. home w/ pool & spa.

12667 Skyline Blvd.

Open Sun 2-4:30

Helen Nicholas



Oakland Hills  
\$995,000

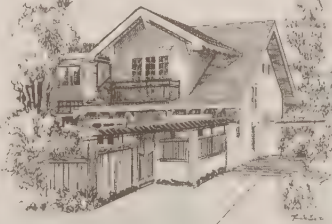
Open

3BR/3BA. New listing! Sophisticated, urban country living on a very private, sunny, 2/3 acres. 1-level home with updated artistic rooms incl. large living room, formal dining, family room, master suite. Outdoor living includes an artist's studio.

4401 Sequoyah Rd.

Open Sun 2-4:30

Helen Nicholas



Berkeley

\$1,495,000

Open

5+BR/4BA. Fabulous large N. Berkeley craftsman-style home. Multiple decks & hot tub allow one to enjoy seeing the bay, the bridge, & gorgeous sunsets. 1 BR Au Pair unit with separate entrance. Low maintenance gardens. Walk to "gourmet ghetto".

1128 Shattuck Ave.

Open Sun 2-4:30

Miriam Wilson

(510)339-8900



Oakland  
\$979,000

3+BR/2+BA. 20th century Craftsman Triplex w/ 21 century upgrades. New roof, new elec, new dual pane wndws, new chefs kit in owners unit & much more. Rental unit. Incl spacious studio w/ sep kit, private entry & patio. 1BR/1BA. Upper unit w/ hwdw flrs. Views of East Bay Hills. Call for private showing.

www.515ValeVista.com

Tom Erwin



Pinole

\$634,900

Open

4BR/2BA. This wonderful family home sits nestled in the beautiful hills of Pinole. Sunken living rm w/ cathedral ceilings & wood burning fireplace, family rm, hwdw flrs in entry & FDR. 2853 Wright Ave.

Open Sun 2-4:30

Jody Dworzak



Berkeley  
\$899,000

Wonderful tri-plex in great location. Nicely maintained buildings on large grounds. Two additional units. Serious investment opportunity.

Andrea Gordon



Oakland

\$859,000

Open

Large duplex & det gar. Tenant occupied w/ great rental income. Enormous lot zoned R50 for amazing development potential. Parcel next door also avail. Great loc.

3535 Lincoln Ave.

Open Sun 2-4:30

Andrea Gordon



Oakland

\$699,000

Open

3BR/3BA. Fabulous tri-level tudor. Perfect for a large family. Call for private showing.

6148 Hillmont Dr.

Open Sat & Sun 12-3:00

Shelia Brox Crawford



Alameda

\$589,000

2+BR/1BA. Darling Craftsman home with gorgeous light, built-ins & tile floors. Sweet bkyd, enormous deck & gar. Walking distance to the best Alameda high school.

832 Oak St.

Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30

Andrea Gordon

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  - Well-planned 2+ bedrooms & 1+ bath.
  - Artfully landscaped lot with serene garden, & lovely patio
  - Custom, poured-in-place concrete kitchen counters with double stainless steel sink, plus breakfast nook.
  - Separate laundry area + bonus office/den space adjacent to kitchen + formal dining room.
  - Semi-finished basement, used as artist's studio
  - Large, 2-car tandem garage with ample storage & interior access to house.
  - Wood-burning Spanish style fireplace & warm hardwood flooring throughout.
  - Enjoy enchanting evening sunset vista views off master bedroom suite balcony

[www.5336WalnutStreet.com](http://www.5336WalnutStreet.com)  
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 Office: 510.899.9237  
[amichelle@kw.com](mailto:amichelle@kw.com)

**KELLER WILLIAMS**

## NEWER, LUXURY, MIXED-USE PROPERTY IN BERKELEY



3225 ADELINE ST. / 1881 HARMON ST.

Welcome to this very spacious 2 story Residential home over a commercial space, ideal for business opportunity on a high visibility street. This is a beautiful building built in 2004 w/artistic design finishes throughout. Great open space on lower level of Residential home, perfect for artist, design professional, music studio & more! Upstairs is a wonderful loft style 3 bedroom, 2 bath w/lots of natural light, open gourmet kitchen & ROOF TOP DECK w/panoramic views. Elevator to all 3 levels. Truly a special property!

Offered at \$1,400,000

**DENISE MILBURN**  
 510.410.2424

[dmilburn@yahoo.com](mailto:dmilburn@yahoo.com)

Photo tour at: [www.denisemilburn.mywindermere.com](http://www.denisemilburn.mywindermere.com)

**Windermere**  
 Properties of the East Bay

## STASKY & COMPANY REAL ESTATE

NEW LISTING



622 Norvell Street, El Cerrito

Open Sunday 2-4:30 p.m....This delightful & spacious split-level home exudes a warm inviting feeling throughout with its 40's architectural details. It is located just a few blocks from BART and the Plaza. Three bedrooms, 1 bath, formal dining, large living room with tiled fireplace, eat-in kitchen overlooking large pretty garden and patio, garage with interior access, expansion possibilities.

Offered at \$675,000

**John Stasky & Company Real Estate**

(510) 525-8800

[www.Johnstasky.com](http://www.Johnstasky.com)



## KIDS, KIDS, KIDS



140 WALDO, PIEDMONT

This handsome five bedroom three bath traditional is located on a one block street which is home to over 25 children!! It's an easy walk or bike ride to schools, parks or ice cream. The updated kitchen adjoins a breakfast room and has access to the patio. The grand piano-size living room also has access to the patio, making it perfect for entertaining. There are four good size bedrooms and a plus space upstairs. Shown by appointment only.

Offered at \$2,050,000

For more details, please call:  
**Vickie Robinson & Aleso Gourhan**  
 Prudential California Realty, Piedmont  
 Office: (510) 703-8207  
 email: [vickie.robinson@prurealty.com](mailto:vickie.robinson@prurealty.com)  
[aleso.gourhan@prurealty.com](mailto:aleso.gourhan@prurealty.com)



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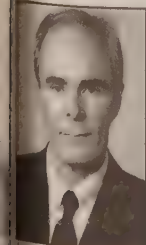
1900 Mountain Blvd., Oakland



John K. Holmgren



Lara Blake



JC Loomis



Jane Glendinning



Julia Demeter



Ray Fry



Yolanda Lane



Marty Appel



Gwen Hoople



Greg Herman



Bob Rand



Joe Acker



Rhoda Paul



Mitch Grashin

Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section. The first place to look when looking for a new home.



## Bruss

FROM PAGE B20

When you obtain a reverse mortgage, you have three choices: a lump sum (perhaps to install a new roof or to buy a new car), monthly lifetime income even if you live to 110, and/or a credit line to use when desired (except in Texas).

The reverse mortgage "matures" and must be paid off when you sell the house, move out for longer than 12 months, or die. After the sale of your home, the remaining equity goes to you or your heirs. If your heirs want to keep the house after you die, they can obtain a new mortgage to pay off the reverse mortgage.

The only time I don't recommend a reverse mortgage is if you don't plan to stay in your home at least five years. The reason is then the up-front loan costs make a reverse mortgage a bad deal. When I get to be 85 or 90, I'll probably get

one. More details are in my special report, "The Whole Truth About Reverse Mortgages for Senior Citizen Homeowners," available for \$5 from Robert Bruss, 251 Park Road, Burlingame, CA 94010 or by credit card at 800-736-1736 or instant Internet delivery at BobBruss.com.

**Dear Bob:** A few years ago, my wife and I had our living trust prepared by an attorney who specializes in living trusts. After reading in your articles several times that a living trust is worthless unless title to our house is deeded into our living trust, I contacted him to see if that was done. I was told the deed should not be recorded until after a death, as this gives more flexibility. Now I am very confused. — Hugh D.

**Dear Hugh:** After I received your e-mail a few weeks ago, I consulted several fellow attorneys to see if they knew of any reason not to "fund" a living trust with title to the trustor's home.

They all agreed that if title to a

home is not transferred into the trustor's living trust (with the trustor as the initial trustee) before death, after the owner's death, the title to the house must be probated (except for small estates). I hate to disagree with a fellow attorney, but I suggest you consult another attorney in your town to see if there is any reason not to transfer title to your home into your revocable living trust.

**Dear Bob:** My late father gave my husband and me a life estate in his house after he died. We are now living in the house, but we want to sell it and move to a distant city where my husband has a job waiting. However, I discovered we can't get much for our life estate, but we need that money for a house down payment in our new city. When we die, the house goes to the church where my late father belonged. Is there anything we can do? — Mary Ann H.

See BRUSS, Page B23

CONTACT THE REAL ESTATE EDITOR AT 510-748-1682  
OR E-MAIL [DEVANOSKY@CCTIMES.COM](mailto:DEVANOSKY@CCTIMES.COM).

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★ ★ New **PIEDMONT** Listing! ★ ★  
★ ★ Open House - Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> 1-5pm ★ ★



**4++ Bedrooms & 3 Bathrooms**  
**Stunning Redo w/ Magical Gardens**  
**564 Crofton Ave., Piedmont**  
**Offered at \$1,345,000**

**Before it was Location, Location, Location, but now it is Schools, Schools, Schools – Enjoy Both!**

Some offer two homes on one lot – Here you are offered one amazing home on two lots. The best part is one lot is in Piedmont, which qualifies your children access to one of the best school districts in the state, while the other is in Oakland, which allows you to live and vote in one of the Bay Area's most vibrant and diverse communities. This unique property offers an exciting and flexible floor plan for fun and entertaining. The home features 4+ bedrooms laid out over two stories of almost 2,300 square feet of living space, as well as a beautiful converted garage studio surrounded by magnificent gardens with mature landscaping.

The bright and sunny upstairs of this expanded 1920s home offers period charm with a modern, upbeat twist. There is a traditional layout with entry, formal living and dining room, hardwood floors, and a tiled fireplace. These rooms have recessed and designer lighting, and are wired with stereo speakers. The remodeled gourmet kitchen opens to a tiled deck with clear views of Oakland's twinkling downtown, as well as the green hills. The sumptuous upper master suite also opens to the deck and has an artfully tiled bathroom that is like having your own in-house spa. (The claw foot soaking tub and heated floors are divine.) A tastefully remodeled hall bath and bedroom completes the upper floor.

The lower level of this home is truly inspired with two large bedrooms, a beautiful bathroom, an open family room, homework nook, and a second kitchen/laundry room for the after school free-for-all with the kids. All this opens to the large lower redwood deck and creatively landscaped wrap around garden (easy maintained on automatic drip system) that offers figs, persimmons, avocados, tangerines, oranges, flowers, herbs, organic vegetables and a private Zen meditation area (that has been used for warm weather camp-outs too!). The converted garage opens off the lower deck, and makes for a serene hide-a-way, suited well for a home office, guest room, art/yoga studio, or teen hangout.

This house was extensively remodeled and expanded from the foundation to the roof in 2001, including all double paneled windows and system upgrades, and has been lovingly maintained since. It is in move-in condition, with custom shades and blinds throughout. Located on a friendly street just above Grand and Lakeshore Avenues, you will have easy access to schools, shopping, theater, Lake Merritt, the farmers market, and transportation options.

**Ron Kriss, Broker**  
510-547-5970 Ext 55 [ronkriss@jps.net](mailto:ronkriss@jps.net)

**ONLINE TOUR @ [www.564Crofton.Com](http://www.564Crofton.Com)**



★ ★ NEW **ROCKRIDGE** LISTING! ★ ★  
★ ★ Open House - Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup> 1-5pm ★ ★



**3 Bedrooms & 2 Bathrooms**  
**5133 Miles Ave**  
**Offered @ \$799,000**

**Clean and Bright Bungalow w/ a Huge Park-like Yard**

Wide open space – If you have been searching for a home that has a real yard; a place where you spread out, garden, build a work shop or a second house, then this home is perfect for you. The features 3 bedrooms and 1 bath on the main level along with an eat-in kitchen and cozy office. The nook and kitchen open right to a big covered deck all overlooking the back yard. You will spend time with all your friends and families in this wonderful place. The big fireplace in the dining room, the hardwood & softwood floors, and crown moldings really set the home apart. You need a bit more space for all those projects and treasures you have collected there is a full basement with a full bathroom and laundry. We are talking full concrete slab, plenty on ceiling and light. You will be amazed at how big this space really is. The house has been meticulously cared for and has a very low pest with update systems.

Your new home is located in Rockridge and is close to everything – including all the great shops and restaurants on College Ave., FROG Park, BART, AC Transit, Casual Carpooling to SF, Freeways, and easy access to all the major work places makes commuting from this home a snap. As a bonus, Temescal and the bustling Telegraph Avenue shopping District is just a few blocks away from this great location. And with coffee available at every turn, what could be better!

**Ron Kriss, Broker**  
510-547-5970 Ext 55 [ronkriss@jps.net](mailto:ronkriss@jps.net)

**ONLINE TOUR @ [www.5133Miles.Com](http://www.5133Miles.Com)**

**marvin**  
gardens

**Open Homes**



1577 Solano Avenue  
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(510) 527-2700

7502 Fairmount Avenue  
El Cerrito CA 94530  
(510) 527-9111

289 Arlington Avenue  
Kensington CA 94707  
(510) 524-0800

147 W Richmond Avenue  
Pt. Richmond CA 94801  
(510) 231-1640



**Berkeley \$1,995,000**  
Luxurious materials, meticulous attention to detail & classic design grace this gorgeous new 4 bedroom, 3+ bath home. Superb woodwork throughout, vaulted ceilings. Fireplaces in living room & family room. Elegant skylit breakfast room, filtered Bay views.  
1071 Cragmont Ave.  
Ron Eggherman & Todd Hodson  
Open Sun 2-4:30  
524-0800



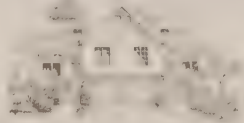
**Berkeley \$579,000**  
Charming 1920s bungalow! 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Original details include hardwood floors, sweet fireplace & built-ins. Cute kitchen w/ Wedgewood stove & cozy breakfast area. Full basement w/workshop space. Private backyard. Great location around the corner from Café Fanny & near fun Fourth St. shops!  
1641 Kains Ave.  
Meridee Carter  
Open Sun 2-4  
527-2700x39



**Berkeley \$410,000**  
Charming detached condo on a tree-lined street near cafes, art, shopping, parks & easy commute choices. Private outside spaces & shared yard. Very sweet 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage w/ charming details.  
2424 9th St.  
Stina Charles-Harris  
527-2700x23



**Berkeley \$1,250,000**  
Enchanting English Country-style home with splendid views and a garden to match. Grand living room with beamed ceiling and handsome fireplace, 4+ bedroom, 3+ bath formal dining room, master suite, two decks, large recreation room and garden room.  
22 Kenyon Ave.  
Ron Eggherman & Todd Hodson  
Open Sun 2-4:30  
524-0800



**Berkeley \$550,000**  
Large condo in vintage Westme duplex. Two bright bedrooms, 1.5 bath, living room with fireplace, separate dining room, new kitchen and office. Step out to lovely landscaped garden.  
1225 Cornell Ave.  
Celia Concus  
Open Sun 2-4:30  
524-0800



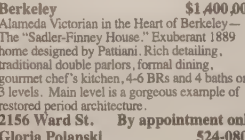
**Oakland \$295,000**  
Affordable condo near Jack London Square. Updated 1 bedroom with new paint, carpeting and kitchen countertop. Amenities to Marina, Estuary Park, and shoreline walkway to Jack London Square restaurants and shops.  
5 W. Embarcadero #129  
Darrell Hoh  
Open Sun 2-4  
524-0800



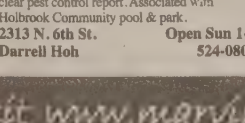
**Redwood Heights - Oakland \$719,000**  
A very special Mediterranean-style home from the Deco era. Arched entry, random plank oak floors, graciously proportioned rooms awash in natural sunlight & wonderful landscaped gardens. 2+ bedroom, 1.5 bath.  
4256 39th Ave.  
See @ KathieBerg.com  
Open Sun 2-4:30



**El Cerrito \$525,000**  
Cozy 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home near BART and Plaza shops. Large lot, direct access to generous sun-filled backyard with covered deck and hot tub. One-car attached garage with interior access. Hardwood floors throughout underneath carpet.  
1307 Norvell St.  
Mark P. Chol  
Open Sun 2-5  
524-0800



**Berkeley \$1,400,000**  
Alameda Victorian in the Heart of Berkeley - The "Sadler-Finney House." Exuberant 1889 home designed by Patina. Rich detailing, traditional double parlors, formal dining, gourmet chef's kitchen, 4-6 BRs and 4 baths on 3 levels. Main level is a gorgeous example of restored period architecture.  
2156 Ward St.  
Gloria Polanski  
By appointment only  
524-0800



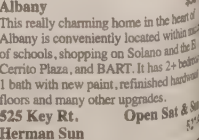
**Concord \$539,900**  
Holbrook Heights Development. Immaculate 3 bedroom, 2 bath one-level home in move-in condition. Gleaming hardwood floors, freshly painted interior & exterior, updated kitchen and clear pest control report. Associated with Holbrook Community pool & park.  
2313 N. 6th St.  
Darrell Hoh  
Open Sun 1-4  
524-0800



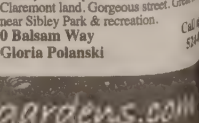
**Berkeley**  
Beautiful English Tudor circa 1926! Thick filled condo unit is filled w/period details, fireplaces, charming wood windows, hardwood floors, formal dining room, open kitchen, sunroom w/window seat, 3 bedrooms, PLUS 800+ sq. ft. undeveloped garden. Shared garden. Parking.  
2366 Cedar St., #4  
Richard Morrison 527-2700x39  
Open Sun



**Richmond**  
Spanish Mediterranean-style with delightful Craftsman details. Pride of ownership shines through this immaculate 2 bedroom split-level home. Spacious & sunny, extra bonus room above for playroom or storage. One-car attached garage. Large level backyard with hot tub & garden shed.  
452 Key Blvd.  
Jeri Jones  
Open Sat & Sun  
231-1640



**Albany**  
This really charming home in the heart of Albany is conveniently located within minutes of schools, shopping on Solano and the El Cerrito Plaza, and BART. It has 2+ bedrooms, 1 bath with new paint, refinished hardwood floors and many other upgrades.  
525 Key Rd.  
Herman Sun  
Open Sat & Sun  
527-2700



**Oakland**  
Two beautiful wooded upslope lots on a cul-de-sac for this price. Just minutes to freeway, Montclair, Claremont, Berkeley, Orinda, etc., but feels like living deep in countryside. Super value for Montclair/Claremont land. Gorgeous street. Great lot near Sibley Park & recreation.  
0 Balsam Way  
Gloria Polanski  
Call 524-0800

For more information about these properties visit [www.marvingardens.com](http://www.marvingardens.com)



## BRUSS

FROM PAGE B22

Dear Mary Ann: Your letter reveals another reason I dislike life estates. They tie up property and create many unexpected problems, such as in your situation. The reason there is no resale market for a life estate is when you die, the life estate "dies" or terminates. Then the remainderman (the church) owns the full title. You could go to the church office now to see if they might give

up their remainder interest in your house in return for a generous donation of several thousand dollars now when you sell the house.

Then you (and the church) can sell the house, obtain cash for your next home's down payment, and the church gets a cash donation now instead of waiting many years. For full details, please consult a local real estate attorney.

Dear Bob: I am a widow, age 67. My husband died about four years ago. Now I want to sell my house to move to a better climate and to be closer to my grandchildren. My prob-

lem is when I sell I will have about \$375,000 net profit according to the real estate agent. Because I have lived in my home many years, I know I am entitled to that \$250,000 tax exemption you often discuss. Is there any easy way to avoid paying tax on the excess \$125,000? —Victoria W.

Dear Victoria: No. However, if you are a bit adventurous, you could convert your home into a rental property and make an Internal Revenue Code 1031 tax-deferred exchange for another rental property of equal or greater cost and equity.

My suggestion is you consult your tax adviser to determine your home's current adjusted-cost basis. You mentioned your husband died about four years ago. If you inherited his half of the house that means you received a new "stepped-up basis" to market value on at least 50 percent of the house (100 percent in community property states).

Even if you owe capital gains tax on that \$125,000, the current federal long-term capital gains tax rate is only a 15 percent maximum, plus applicable state tax.

DON'T MISS THE WEEKLY SALES IN THE AUTO SECTION ON D4.

## DESIGNER'S HOME FOR SALE

In perfect harmony with its landscaped surroundings  
**1023Eagle.com, Alameda**



2+ bedrooms and 1 bath: the legal bonus space (currently used as a third, master bedroom) is a large, beautifully appointed room with wood-burning fireplace and French doors opening onto a private, landscaped yard. Sumptuous and satisfying throughout. A perfect place to entertain or escape.

Offered for \$645,000.

First open house weekend: Saturday and Sunday 2-4:00

David Gunderman (205-4369) or Andrew Raskopf (205-3575)  
**AndrewAndDavid.com**

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Open Sun 1-4 • 505 Lancaster St. #3

Last unit in 6 newly constructed, spacious & incredibly bright live/work lofts has huge walk-in closet, gourmet kitchen & 2 car garage, 1+ bdrms, 2 baths. Great neighborhood, shops & BART all within walking distance. Priced at \$595,000!



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## Pending Sale



Only 1 Left

417 Evelyn Avenue #203 - Albany

Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath Condo. Updated kitchen, granite countertop, new appliances, fireplace, private balcony and 2 parking spaces in a Security Bldg. Walk to Albany Schools, BART and El Cerrito Plaza.

Only \$400,000

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2117 Pinehurst Court EL CERRITO \$749,000



Particular City, G.G., Bay And Golf Course Views in Mira Vista Country Club. Exceptionally well-maintained with many top-quality upgrades. Immaculate, like model Townhouse in serene cul-de-sac area.

Bedroom, 25 bath townhome in Mira Vista Country Club with Golden Gate, San Francisco Bay, and Golf course views from LR, MBR, deck and patio. Well landscaped with many upgrades: Quality hardwood floors and carpets, fresh paint, double pane windows. Immaculate, like a model home. Large Master suite, custom walk-in closet, large eat-in kitchen with wet bar. Cathedral ceiling, skylights and fireplace in living room, which leads to patio for unbelievable views. Large 2-car garage with lots of storage. 90 termite, sewer lateral done.

KIM CLEVELAND

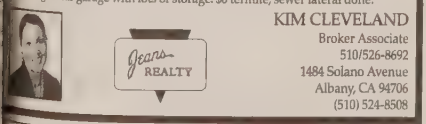
Broker Associate

510/526-8692

1484 Solano Avenue

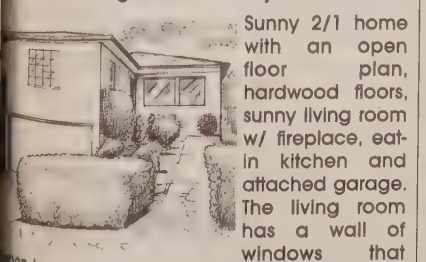
Albany, CA 94706

(510) 524-8508



4015 Rusting Ave.  
- Original Owner!

leona Heights Mid Century Classic



Sunny 2/1 home with an open floor plan, hardwood floors, sunny living room w/ fireplace, eat-in kitchen and attached garage. The living room has a wall of windows that

Open to a spacious patio and backyard, great for entertaining, gardening. It is well maintained, and needs your cosmetic ideas to make it beautiful.

Offered at \$450,000

Open Sunday  
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

can help you learn the true market value of your property and our consultants maximize the value of your investment. Take advantage of my contacts with leading lenders.

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California Realty



## Coming soon - Darling Rockridge craftsman home

This immaculate 2 bed/1 bath home has hardwoods, built-ins, box-beam ceilings, and granite countertops in the huge country kitchen, as well as a small plus room overlooking the large, landscaped backyard. Offered at \$699,000

Star Lightner, Broker

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## North Oakland 4-Plex

1152 53rd St., Oakland



North Oakland, across the street from Emeryville high school. Fixer fourplex. Structurally sound, this Victorian needs everything including paint, bathrooms, kitchens and floors. Tremendous value added opportunity.

Only \$499,000

Anne Bruff

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## 1065 Keith Avenue, Berkeley

Open  
Sunday  
1-5



Conveniently located on a prime tree-lined street in coveted North Berkeley, this three bedroom, two bath home has been impeccably maintained and updated. The open floor plan is filled with abundant light and boasts a gourmet kitchen, filtered Bay views, a serene waterfall garden with hot tub, many upgrades and much more.

Offered at \$799,000



Ron Sebahar

Hill &amp; Co. Real Estate

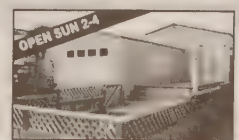
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REAL ESTATE

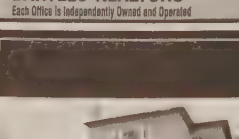
## 3 New Listings



**OPEN SUN 2-4**  
953 MADISON ST., ALBANY  
#130 - Beautifully remodeled home w/ attached gar. Features dual pane windows, updated kitchen w/stainless steel appliances, refinished hardwood flooring throughout, quartz worktop & fresh paint. Close to Solano Ave. shops & restaurants. Easy access to Hwy 5550,000



**NEWLY UPDATED**  
#77 - Perfect for 1st time buyers. New paint in & out, dual pane windows. Updated kitchen w/new appliances. Newly installed laminate floor gives this bright & sunny living room a cozy warm feeling! \$475,000



**OPEN SUN 2:15-4:15**  
3657 PARK RIDGE DR., RICHMOND  
#121 - Country Club Vista. This beautiful house is waiting for you. Located in the BaySide living community known for its pride and value. Beautiful exterior design plus heart shaped landscaping layout. Looking for 1 bedroom & 1 full bath on the first floor? \$739,000

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
BARTELS-REALTORS®  
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El Cerrito (510) 232-0281  
Richmond (510) 232-1462  
Pinole (510) 758-8050  
www.bartelsrealtors.com

## CTJ JEKABSON

East Bay Real Estate

New Listing  
1531  
Edith Street  
Berkeley  
\$598,000

Open Sunday  
2-4:30



A cozy bungalow situated on a deep private lot with a peek of a Bay view!

Great location on a quiet North Berkeley street close to BART and Chez Panisse

2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath w/charming sunporch off bedroom. Needs TLC. Reports available.

CAROL T. JEKABSON

510.273.9322 Email JEKABSON@COLDGLOBAL.NET Web Site JEKABSONRE.COM

## MAISON NOUVEAU

REAL ESTATE SERVICES



945 FRESNO AVENUE, BERKELEY

BE PREPARED TO FALL IN LOVE  
Grand 4+BR/2BA Prairie style home with original charm and stunning upgrades. Gourmet kitchen, huge master suite, lovely landscaping and less than a block from Solano Avenue. This one's a must see!  
OFFERED AT: \$1,195,000



5500 THOMAS AVENUE, ROCKRIDGE

ROCKRIDGE LIVING AT ITS FINEST  
Wonderful 3BR/1.5BA Rockridge bungalow with detached office nestled in the garden. Fantastic open floor plan with large living room and huge dining room perfect for entertaining.  
OFFERED AT: \$799,000



673 60TH STREET, OAKLAND

STUNNINGLY RENOVATED 1912 EDWARDIAN  
Bright, sunny home boasts 4BR/3.5BA plus a finished attic w/ skylights. New eat-in kitchen and new bathrooms, exquisite backyard and patio. This gem won't last long!  
OFFERED AT: \$689,000

510-649-9900  
2701 COLLEGE AVE., BERKELEY

WWW.MAISONNOUVEAU.COM  
Exceptional Agents. Extraordinary Results. Esteemed Clients.

WINE COUNTRY 707-431-0400  
SAN FRANCISCO 415-922-8800



# Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostatimes.com



## Alameda

\$329,000 2107B San Jose Ave. 2 BD/1 BA  
Sun 2-4 BJ Droubi & Co. Ericka Jennings

\$329,000 1333 Webster A313 1 BD/1 BA  
Sun 2-4:30 Alameda Realty Chris Price

\$345,000 105 Cypress St. 2 BD/1 BA  
Sun 2:30-4:30 West End 510-814-4836  
Harbor Bay Realty Nina Quan

\$369,000 1170 9th St. #14 1bd/1ba  
Sun 2-5 Gold Coast 510-428-0900  
Prudential Piedmont Bryan Salomone

\$415,000 1170 Ninth Street #36 1 BD/1 BA  
Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates 510-410-6058  
Marie Kane

\$449,000 2420 Marti Rae Ct 1bd/1ba  
Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Better Homes 510-339-8400  
Nahid Nassiri

\$449,500 339 Broadway #203 2 BD/2 BA  
Sun 1-4 East End 510-748-1174  
Gallagher & Lindsey Mario & Wendy Mariani

\$449,900 965 Shorepoint Ct. #218 2 BD/2 BA  
Sun 2-4 Alameda Realty 510-508-7959  
Carol Burnett

\$459,000 2107A San Jose Ave. 1bd/1 BA  
Sun 2-4 BJ Droubi & Co. Ericka Jennings

\$499,000 2137 Otis Dr. #322 2BD/2BA  
Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates 510-919-5485  
John Bergman

\$465,000 2137 Otis Dr. #121 2 BD/2 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 St. Francis 510-748-1108  
Gallagher & Lindsey Inc. Bill & Griselda Bisset

\$475,000 1594 Pacific Ave 2 BD/1 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Central Alameda 510-814-4859/814-4891  
Harbor Bay Realty Karen Wellman/George Muhr

\$495,000 2027 Otis Dr F 2 BD/2 BA  
Sat & Sun 2-4 South Shore 510-522-9600  
Harbor Bay Realty Izabella Lipetski

\$515,000 2101 Shoreline Dr #463 1bd/1 BA  
Sun 2-4 South Shore 510-814-4863  
Harbor Bay Realty Tisa Beene

\$529,000 1717 Oak St. 2BD/1BA  
Sat & Sun 2-4 Centennial Real Estate 510-331-1360  
Frank Manibusan

\$539,000 1333 Broadway 2 BD/1 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 East End 510-814-4882/510-814-4818  
Harbor Bay Realty Antoinette Paulino/Steve Cressy

\$539,000 3210 Fijl Lane 2 BD/1.5 BA  
Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates 510-508-1215  
John McNulty

\$539,000 3711 Rhoda Ave. 2BD/1BA  
Sun 2-4 Diamond 415-921-6000  
Hill & Co. Dona Fuller

\$549,000 1238 College Ave 2 BD/1 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4:30 East End 510-814-4874/814-4864  
Harbor Bay Realty Mark Playsted/Ronald Jones

\$550,000 534 Haight Ave. 2BD/2BA  
Sun 1-4 Alameda Realty 510-814-0410  
John or Jill Parten

\$565,000 3150 Fijl Ln. 2 BD/2 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Island 510-522-9600  
Harbor Bay Realty Izabella Lipetski

\$579,900 1053 Mangrove Ln. 3 BD/1.5 BA  
Sat 2-4 Homes-Link Team 510-748-5300

\$585,000 3422 Redhook Lane 3BD/2.5BA  
Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. Helene Barkin

\$589,000 832 Oak Street 2+BD/1BA  
Sat & Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage 510-421-6818  
Andrea Gordon

\$593,000 933 Shoreline Dr #403 2 BD/2 BA  
Sun 2-4 KekoSellsHomes.com 510-522-4449  
Kelko McDonah

\$595,000 1029 Tahiti Lane 4 BD/2.5 BA  
Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Island 510-914-7636  
Broadway Real Estate Greg and Tina Koube

\$615,000 635 Centre Ct. 2 BD/2 BA  
Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4826  
Donnaci Williams

\$619,000 430A Cola Ballena 2 BD/2 BA  
Sun 2-4 Ballena Bay 510-507-3334  
Help-U-Sell Action Properties Therese Herget

\$645,000 1023 Eagle Ave. 2 BD/1 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates 510-205-4369/205-3575  
David G. Andrew R.

\$649,000 251 Beach Rd. 3 BD/1 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Island 510-814-4830/814-4831  
Harbor Bay Realty George & Bev Williams

\$659,000 3247 Sterling Avenue 2 BD/2 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Kane & Associates 510-919-1294  
Debe Cunningham

\$659,000 5 Christensen Ct 2 BD/2.5 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Bay Farm Island 510-814-4887  
Harbor Bay Realty Alex Mak

\$659,000 618 Lagunaria Ln. 2 BD/2.5 BA  
Sat 2:30-4:30/Sun 2-4 HBisla 510-814-4864/814-4874  
Harbor Bay Realty Ronald Jones/Mark Playsted

\$678,000 28 Invincible Ct 2 BD/2 BA  
Fri 4:30-6:30/Sat 2-4/Sun 2-4:30 814-4861/814-4814  
Harbor Bay Realty Susan Battaglia/Connie Hanna

## Alameda

\$679,000 2146 San Jose Ave 3 BD/1.5 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Central Alameda 510-814-4826/814-4829  
Harbor Bay Realty D. Williams/M. Lomba

\$685,000 1566 Lincoln Ave Units C & D 3 BD/2.5 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Central Alameda 510-814-4714/814-4839  
Harbor Bay Realty Barbara Bolton/Bill Douglas

\$689,000 305 Court St. 4 BD/2.5 BA  
Sun 2-4 East End 510-814-4859  
Harbor Bay Realty Karen Wellman

\$695,000 1512 Union St. 4 BD/2 BA  
Sun 2-4:30 Bickley Real Estate 510-769-1606  
John Bickley

\$698,000 617 Baywood Rd. 3 BD/2.5 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Realty 510-814-4882  
Maureen Shandobil

\$699,500 451 Central Ave. 2 BD/2 BA  
Sat & Sun 2-4 West End 510-748-1108/748-1171  
Gallagher & Lindsey B. & G. Bissett / S. DiDolito

\$719,500 437 Sheffield Road 2 BD/2 BA  
Sat & Sun 2-4 Sand Piper Cove 510-748-1108  
Gallagher & Lindsey Inc. Bill & Griselda Bisset

\$725,000 1503 Santa Clara Ave. 4 BD/2 BA  
Sun 2-4 Homes-Link Real Estate 510-748-5300

\$725,000 914 Ironwood Road 3 BD/2.5 BA  
Sun 2:30-4:30 Harbor Bay Isle 510-604-2300  
Harbor Bay Realty Connie Hanna

\$729,000 105 Brunswick Rd. 2 BD/1.5 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Isle 510-814-4819/814-4847  
Harbor Bay Realty Nancy & Chuck Bianchi

\$795,000 2207 San Jose Ave. 3 BD/2 BA  
Sat/Sun 1-4 Central 510-748-1170/748-1175  
Gallagher & Lindsey J. Selbach / A. DeBardeleben

\$799,000 1028 San Antonio Ave 2 BD/2 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Gold Coast 510-914-3003/814-4865  
Harbor Bay Realty Steve Sorensen/Lena Sazo

\$817,000 729 Baywood Rd. 4 BD/2.5 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 HB Isle 510-814-4870/814-4832/814-4882  
Harbor Bay P. Koutoulakis/D.A. Morroni/A. Paulino

\$839,999 152 Stanbridge Ln. 3 BD/2 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Isle 510-814-4854  
Harbor Bay Realty Donn Gutierrez

\$849,000 1810 Clinton Ave. 4BD/2BA  
Open Sun 2-4pm For Sale By Owner 510-864-0133

\$859,000 605 Glenwood Isle 3 BD/2 BA  
Sun 2-4 South Shore 510-814-4828  
Harbor Bay Realty Martha Turner

\$869,000 1314 Weber St. 3 BD/2.5 BA  
Sun 2-4 Gold Coast 510-814-4810  
Harbor Bay Realty Jane Friedrich

\$879,000 1534 Sherman St. 3 BD/2.5 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Central Alameda 510-814-4838  
Harbor Bay Realty Karen Miller

\$890,000 1713-1715 9th St. 2 houses on lot  
Sun 2-4 West End 510-748-1116 / 748-1125  
Gallagher & Lindsey Alice Garvin / Troy Staten

\$898,000 1605 Buena Vista Ave. 3 or 4 BD/2 BA  
Sun 2-4 Central Alameda 510-748-1148  
Gallagher & Lindsey Pacita Dimacali

\$899,000 2255 Clinton Ave 3 BD/3 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Central Alameda 510-814-4824  
Harbor Bay Realty Darin Vinata

\$948,000 1119 Regent St. 3 Units  
Sat/Sun 2-4 East End 510-814-4897/814-4848  
Harbor Bay Realty Nancy Mach/Ringo Liu

\$985,000 1528 Minutun St. 4 BD/4 BA  
Sat/Sun 2:30-4:30 Central Alameda 510-814-4836  
Harbor Bay Realty Nina Quan

\$998,000 360 Jack London Ave. 4BD/3BA  
Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 510-847-9757  
Katie Macks

\$999,000 2057 Alameda Ave 5 BD/3 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Central Alameda 510-814-4865/814-3003  
Harbor Bay Realty Lena Sazo/Steve Sorensen

\$1,150,000 356 Anderson Rd. 5 BD/3 BA  
Sat/Sun 2-4 Harbor Bay Isle 510-814-4881  
Harbor Bay Realty Jena Ng

\$1,169,000 2014 Santa Clara Ave 2 Units  
Sun 1-4 Central Alameda 510-814-4813  
Harbor Bay Realty Richard Kim

\$1,230,000 1557 Pacific 6 BD/4 BA  
Sun 2-4 4 Units 510-523-0707  
PanaVista Realty Ramesh

\$1,325,000 1250 Saint Charles St. 4 BD/3.5 BA  
Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates 510-331-5480  
Vicki Lim

\$1,450,000 715 Grand St. 3 BD/2.5 BA  
Sun 2-4 Gold Coast 510-908-9025/814-4711  
Harbor Bay Realty Walt & Judy Jacobs

\$ 1208 High Street 2 BD/1 BA  
Sat & Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey 510-748-1121  
Angela McIntyre

## Albany

\$408,000 555 Pierce St. #1034 2bd/2ba  
Open Sun 1-5 415-377-6166  
Zip Realty Kimmie Kim

\$529,000 525 Key Rt. Blvd 2+bd/1ba  
Open Sat/Sun 2-4 510-527-9111  
Marvin Gardens Herman Sun

\$549,000 515 Stannage Ave 2bd/1 ba  
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-524-9883x13  
Berkeley Hills Realty Peter Damm

## Albany

\$550,000 953 Madison St 2bd/1ba  
Open Sun 2-4 518-593-8874  
Coldwell Banker Bartels Jonathan MacConnell

\$579,000 1465 Portland Ave 3bd/1ba  
Open Sun 1-5 510-932-3538  
Red Oak Realty Robin Kingsbury

## Antioch

\$525,000 5225 Fairside Way 3BD/2BA  
Open Sun 1-4 510-531-7000x272  
Wells & Bennett Realtors Eliza Uribe

## Berkeley

\$235,000 2550 Dana St. 2E 1bd/1ba  
Open Sun 2-4 510-915-2024  
Thornwall Properties Nancy Foss

\$399,000 1119 Hearst 1bd/1ba  
Open Sun 2-5 No. Berkeley 510-845-0211  
Prudential Claremont Debra Alber

\$429,000 2330 Browning 2bd/1ba  
Open Sun 2-5 510-326-5800  
Re/Max Executive Bill Grimsan

\$475,000 2141 Oregon St. #3 2bd/2ba  
Sat/Sun 2-5 Berkeley Bowl 510-868-1400  
Prudential Crandall/Helgeson

\$519,000 2022-9th St 2bd/1ba  
Open Sun 2-4:30 West Berkeley 510-339-9290  
Prudential Montclair Doug Fuller

\$525,000 2400 Dowling Place 1BD+Loft/1BA  
Open Sat & Sun 11-6 510-333-0507  
Alpha Real Estate Craig Beckerman

\$530,000 2711 Mabel St 2BD/1BA  
Open Sun 2-4 510-486-1495  
Coldwell Banker Kimiko Terry

\$550,000 1225 Cornell Ave 2bd/1.5ba  
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-524-0800  
Marvin Gardens Celia Concus

\$560,000 2400 Dowling Place 1bd/1.5ba  
Open Sat & Sun 11-6 510-333-0507  
Alpha Real Estate Craig Beckerman

\$579,000 1641 Kalns Ave 2bd/1ba  
Open Sun 2-4 510-527-2700x39  
Marvin Gardens Meridee Carter

\$595,000 2400 Dowling Place 1BD+Loft/1.5BA  
Open Sat & Sun 11-6 510-333-0507  
Alpha Real Estate Craig Beckerman

\$598,000 1531 Edith St 2bd/1ba  
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-273-9322  
CT1 Jakabson E.Bay R.E. Carol T. Jakabson

\$621,000 1142 High Court 4bd/2ba  
Open Sun 2-4:30 Berkeley Hills 510-524-9888x23  
Berkeley Hills Realty Jane Allen

\$629,000 1314 Dwight Way 2+BD/2BA  
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-290-6559  
Lawton Associates Jeff Senblom

\$649,000 2366 Cedar St #4 3bd/1ba  
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-527-2700x32  
Marvin Gardens Richard Morrison

\$650,000 2400 Dowling Pl 1BD+Loft+Offc/1.5BA  
Open Sat & Sun 11-6 510-333-0507  
Alpha Real Estate Craig Beckerman

\$715,000 1100 Miller 3BD/2BA  
Open Sat & Sun 1:30-4:30 510-486-1495  
Coldwell Banker Gaby Olander

\$719,000 1119 Carleton Street 3BD/2BA  
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-338-1304  
Pacific Union Residential Dan Joy

\$749,000 471 Cragmont 3BD/2+BA  
Open Sun 2-4 510-486-1495  
Coldwell Banker Holly Rose

\$769,000 1127 Bancroft Way 4bd/3ba  
Open Sun 2-4 510-835-6218  
Red Oak Realty The Longs

\$795,000 145 Poplar Street 3BD/2BA  
Open Sun 2-4:30 Berkeley 510-339-0400  
The Grubb Co. Bebe McRae

\$795,000 2022 Delaware 3bd/2ba  
Sat/Sun 2-5 Gourmet Ghetto 510-845-0211  
Prudential Claremont Natalie Cutler

\$799,000 1065 Keith Ave. 3 BD/2 BA  
Sun 1-5 North Berkeley 415-279-4579  
Hill & Co. Real Estate Ron Sebarah

\$799,000 2439 Roosevelt Ave 4bd/3ba  
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-280-2179  
Red Oak Realty Robin Gaskins

\$825,000 3125 King St 6bd/4ba  
Open Sun 2-4:30 Triplex 510-848-1950x248  
Thornwall Properties Sandy Parker

\$850,000 600 Arlington Avenue 2+BD/1.5BA  
Open Sun 2-4:30 Berkeley 510-652-2133  
The Grubb Co. Judith Ratcliffe

\$950,000 31 Avenida Dr. 4bd/2ba  
Open Sun 2-4 925-251-1111  
Alain Pinel Realtors Wendy Moore

\$995,000 1864 Capistrano Ave 3+bd/2.5ba  
Open Sun 1:30-4:30 510-280-2145  
Red Oak Realty Virginia Jones

\$995,000 2109 Byron 4+BD/3BA  
Open Sat & Sun 2-4 510-486-1495  
Coldwell Banker Bobbie Glarratana

\$995,000 2808 Hilgard Avenue 4BD/3BA  
Open Sun 2-5 510-338-1339  
Pacific Union Residential Gini Erck

\$1,050,000 6 Nogales Street 2BD/2BA  
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-339-0400  
The Grubb Co. Faye Keogh

\$1,100,000 2035 Los Angeles 4+bd/2ba  
Open Sun 2-4 Berkeley Hills Realty 510-524-9883x33  
Bill & Tracy

\$1,195,000 945 Fresno Ave 4+bd/2ba  
Open Sun 2-4:30 No. Berkeley 510-849-9900  
Maison Nouveau Tary Firm

\$1,199,000 73-77 Panoramic Way 3 Units  
Open Sun 2-4 510-280-2161  
Red Oak Realty Marjorie Sperber

\$1,250,000 22 Kenyon Ave 4+bd/3+ba  
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-524-0800  
Marvin Gardens R.E. Todd Hodson/Ron Egberman

\$1,495,000 1128 Shattuck 5+BD/4BA  
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-289-4012  
C21 Heritage Miriam Wilson

\$1,950,000 2630 Cedar Street 5BD/3BA  
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-899-8000  
Alain Pinel Realtors Sarah Schisler

\$1,995,000 1071 Cragmont Ave 4bd/3+ba  
Open Sun 2-4:30 510-524-0800  
Marvin Gardens R.E. Todd Hodson/Ron Egberman

\$2,120,000 1998 San Antonio 5BD/4.5BA  
Open Sun 2-4 510-486-1495  
Coldwell Banker Kim & Barbara Marienthal

## Berkeley

\$2,450,000 80 Gravatt Drive 4BD/3.5BA  
Open Sun 2-4:30 Claremont Hills 510-339-0400  
The Grubb Co. Debra Dryden

\$3,300,000 85 Gravatt Drive 4BD/4.5BA  
Open Sun 1-4 510-899-8000  
Alain Pinel Realtors Tertie Britz

## Castro Valley

\$820,000 5508 Jasmine Ct 4 BD/2 BA  
Sun 2-4 510-814-4713  
Harbor Bay Realty Russ Grant

## Concord

\$539,900 2313 N. 6th St 3bd/2ba  
Open Sun 1-4 510-524-0800  
Marvin Gardens Darrell Hoh

\$549,950 3145 Ida Dr 3bd/2ba  
Open Sun 1-4 510-237-0372  
Coldwell Banker Bartels Franca Tallierico

## Danville

\$985,000 2 Hardy Court 3BD/2.5BA  
Fri/Sat/Sun 10-5 925-997-3966  
C21 Heritage Schlerdors

\$1,069,000 695 Park Hill Road 3BD/2BA  
Open Sun 1-4 510-338-1328/1324  
Pacific Union Residential C. Benny/R. Woods

## El Cerrito

\$479,000 5737 Clinton Avenue 2bd/1ba  
Open Sun 2-4 510-527-5500  
Berkeley Home R.E. Tim Cannon

\$525,000 1307 Norwell St 3bd/1.5ba  
Open Sun 2-5 510-524-0800  
Marvin Gardens Mark P. Chol

\$549,000 605 Albemarle 2bd/1ba  
Open Sun 1:30-4 510-662-8469  
Security Pacific R.E. www.geristem.com

\$569,000 146 Pomona Ave 2bd/1ba  
Open Sun 2-4 510-835-6218  
Red Oak Realty The Longs

\$639,000 1314 Richmond St. 3BD/2BA  
Open Sun 1-4 510-486-1495  
Coldwell Banker Gene Della Maggiora

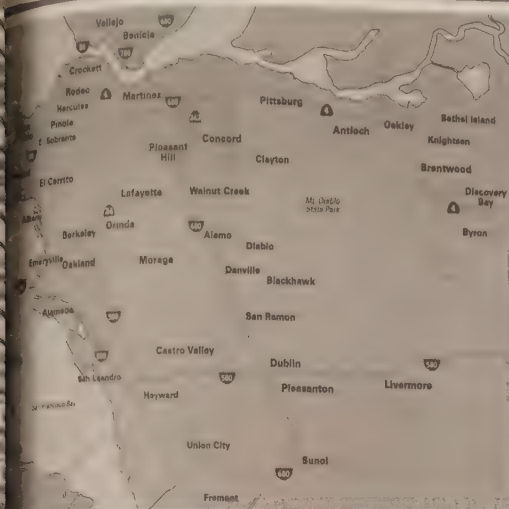
\$649,000 6789 Glen Mawr 3BD/2BA  
Open Sun 1



# OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

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Oakland		
2162 47th Ave.	2+BD/1.5 BA	510-521-5210 Linda Larkin
2223 Magnolia St., #9	Loft	510-280-2105 Sara Garabedian
2963 55th Ave	2bd/1ba	510-339-8400 Patricia Bennett
3100 Birdsall Ave	2bd/1ba	510-339-9290 Lisa Friedman
3145 Texas St	3bd/2ba	510-280-2129 Simone Knowlton
3316 Coolidge Ave	2bd/2ba	510-428-9900 Bryan Salomone
583 59th St	2BD/1BA	510-338-1381 Tom Nemeth
555-10th St #419	2+bd/2ba	510-428-9900 Bryan Salomone
5326 Trask St	2bd/1ba	510-717-2215 Dianne Arancibia
260 Caldecott Ln	2bd/2ba	510-339-8400 Jack Breneman
914 55th St	2bd/1ba	510-845-0211 Karen Ruth
322 Hanover Ave. #413	2BD/2BA	510-338-1354 Jennie Flanigan
4517 Fairfax	DUPEX	510-845-0211 Jeanette Vento
2907 56th Ave.	3BD/2BA	510-531-7000x246 Stan Hammond
3165 Madera Ave	2BD/1BA	510-839-4737
5336 Walnut St	2+bd/1+ba	510-358-0069 Adrian Michelle
835-58th St	2BD/1BA	510-839-4737
320 Caldecott Ln	2bd/2ba	510-339-4000 Michael Harding
6031 Mauritania	3BD/1BA	925-568-7300 Adam Watts
3301 Nicol Ave	3bd/2ba	510-339-8400 David Sykes
373 40th St. #3	1+bd/1.5ba	510-524-9888x26 Norah Brower
1538 Excelsior	2BD/1BA	510-339-4700 Karyn Selby Miller
539 Zorah St	3 BD/1 BA	510-814-4885 Jeff Goodman
931 57th St	DUPEX	510-292-2027 Charly Ankrum
320 Caldecott Ln. #321	2+BD/2BA	510-610-5009/846-4141 Sally Han/Liz Kane
993-37th St	DUPEX	510-851-6627 Shirley Covington
3045 Madeline	2BD/1BA	510-531-7000x292 Carol Robbiano
502 Lancaster St. #3	1+ BD/2 BA	510-331-4234 Steve Moazed
657 Capell Street	2BD/1.25BA	510-339-0400 Anjan Pettit Tunney
3882 Shafter Ave.	DUPLEX	510-531-7000x228204 Kevin P. Kennedy
1515 Bridge Avenue	510-910-1443	Uli Lirosi
3112 Maxwell Ave.	2 BD/2 BA	510-337-8670 Lillian Liao
4519 Shafter Ave.	2BD/2BA	925-352-5527 Michelle Ford
2875 Glasscock St #105	2BD/2BA	510-339-0400 Anne Van Dyke

Oakland		
\$749,000	6155 Westover	3+BD/2+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Pacific Union Residential
\$769,000	3529-3531 Lincoln Ave.	3 Units Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage
\$775,000	4327 Detroit Avenue	3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Redwood Heights Pacific Union Residential
\$779,000	1856 Clemens Road	3BD/1.5BA Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Oakmore Coldwell Banker
\$780,000	4867 Reinhardt	3bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Grand Lake Prudential Cal. Realty
\$788,000	21 Chatsworth	2BD/2BA Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Coldwell Banker
\$789,000	2861 El Caminito	2BD/2BA Open Sat 1-4 Coldwell Banker
\$799,000	10 Elysian Fields	3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Sequoyah Heights Prudential Montclair
\$799,000	2819 Regatta Dr	3bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker Bartels-Realtors
\$799,000	5133 Miles Ave	3BD/2BA Open Sun 1-5 Lawton Associates
\$799,000	5500 Thomas Ave	3bd/1.5ba Open Sun. 2-4:30 Rockridge Maison Nouveau
\$799,000	673 Rosal Ave	3+bd/1.5ba Open Sun. 2-5 Crocker Highlands Montclair Better Homes
\$829,000	1206 Trestle Glen Road	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands The Grubb Co.
\$829,000	1387 Barrows Rd	2+BD/1.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands Pacific Union Residential
\$829,000	1562 Trestle Glen Rd	3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Trestle Glen Prudential Montclair
\$839,000	1069 Trestle Glen Road	3BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands The Grubb Co.
\$848,888	75 Starview Dr.	3BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-4 Alain Pinel Realtors
\$849,000	1084 Trestle Glen	3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands Coldwell Banker
\$849,000	2323 Mastlands	4BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Coldwell Banker
\$859,000	3535 Lincoln Ave.	2 Units Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage
\$859,000	6560 Saroni Dr.	3+BD/3+BA Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Pacific Union Residential
\$860,000	5870 Ascot Dr	4bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Montclair Better Homes
\$865,000	3375 Herrier St	3+bd/-ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Redwood Heights Prudential
\$868,000	191 Elysian Fields	3bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Sequoyah Prudential Montclair
\$869,000	5130 Lawton	2+BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker
\$629,000	311 Oak St. Penthouse# 19	1+bd/1ba Open Sun 2-4 William Shaw, Jeans Realty.com
\$885,000	760-61st ST	5bd/3ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Duplex (Berkeley Border) Prudential Montclair
\$895,000	4295 Edge Drive	4 BD/3.5 BA Open Sun 1-4:30 Oakmore McGuire Real Estate
\$899,000	3231 Monterey Blvd	4BD/3BA Open Sun 1:00-4:30 Tucker Associates
\$899,000	5829 Colby St	4bd/1.5ba Open Sun 2-5 Rockridge Berkeley Hills Realty
\$899,000	8801 Skyline Blvd	5bd/4ba Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty
\$948,000	2930 Joaquin Miller	5+BD/3+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Joaquin Miller Pacific Union Residential
\$948,000	2930 Joaquin Miller	5+BD/3+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Joaquin Miller Pacific Union Residential
\$949,000	3518 Rubin Dr.	5+BD/3BA Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Joaquin Miller Pacific Union Residential
\$985,000	4386 Short Hill Road	3BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Sequoyah Coldwell Banker
\$995,000	4401 Sequoyah Dr.	3BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage
\$995,000	525 Forest St	4bd/2ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge Duplex Better Homes Montclair
\$1,050,000	5836 Lawton Ave.	3+BD/2 BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Rockridge Pacific Union Residential
\$1,055,000	4026-28 West St.	3BD/2BA Open Sun 1:30-4:30 No. Oakland Coldwell Banker
\$1,085,000	1061 Hubert Road	3BD/LSBA Open Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands The Grubb Co.
\$1,160,000	6655 Sobrante Rd	3BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker
\$1,195,000	6117 Fairlane Drive	4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair Coldwell Banker

Oakland		
\$1,195,000	6353 Wood Drive	4BD/3+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair/Pied. The Grubb Co.
\$1,200,000	1835 Tunnel Rd.	4 BD/4.5 BA Open Sun 2-4 Kane & Associates
\$1,200,000	5573 Masonic Ave	4bd/3.5ba Open Sat/Sun. 1-4 Zip Realty
\$1,249,000	5939 Almaden Lane	3+BD/2+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair The Grubb Co.
\$1,250,000	6172 Mathieu Ave	4+bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Claremont Pines Better Homes Montclair
\$1,259,000	1836 Drake Drive	3bd/2.5ba Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair Prudential
\$1,275,000	1077 Ardmore Avenue	4BD/2.25BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands The Grubb Co.
\$1,295,000	129 Calvert Court	4+BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Montclair/Pied. The Grubb Co.
\$1,325,000	1064 Clarendon Crescent	5BD/2BA Sat & Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands Coldwell Banker
\$1,425,000	5110 Crockett Pl	5+bd/4ba Open Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair Montclair Better Homes
\$1,450,000	208 Villanova Dr.	5BD/4BA Open 2-4 Village Associates
\$1,490,000	110 Sheridan Rd	4BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Upper Rockridge The Grubb Co.
\$1,495,000	6963 Buckingham Boulevard	4BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co.
\$1,695,000	6201 Virgo Road	4BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Oakland Hills The Grubb Co.
\$1,695,000	6517 Harwood Ave	6BD/3.5BA Open Sun 1-4 Pacific Union GMAC
\$1,750,000	984 Longridge Road	4+BD/3.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Crocker Highlands The Grubb Co.
\$1,895,000	12667 Skyline Blvd	4+BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Hillcrest Estates C21 Heritage
\$1,975,000	13402 Campus Drive	5BD/5BA Open Sun 2-5 Coldwell Banker
\$2,150,000	95 Westminster Drive	4+BD/3+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Claremont Pines The Grubb Co.
\$2,195,000	5670 Weaver Place	3+BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Hillcrest Estates The Grubb Co.
\$599,000	4121 Laurel Ave	2bd/1ba Open Sun. 2-5 Laurel Prudential Claremont
\$899,000	955 Kingston Ave	2bd/1ba Open Sun. 2-5 Prudential Piedmont
\$1,210,000	250 Estates Dr	3+bd/3ba Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Prudential Claremont
\$1,249,000	10 Hardwick	3+bd/3ba Open Sat/Sun. 1-4 Central Piedmont Keynote Properties
\$1,250,000	314 Jerome Avenue	3+BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont The Grubb Co.
\$1,299,000	218 Linda	4bd/2+ba Open Sun. 2-5 Prudential Piedmont
\$1,335,000	1165 Harvard Road	3BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont The Grubb Co.
\$1,345,000	564 Crofton Ave	4+BD/3BA Open Sun 1-5 Lawton Associates
\$1,495,000	505 Scenic	4BD/3BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont Pacific Union Residential
\$1,650,000	124 Guilford Road	4BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont Coldwell Banker
\$2,100,000	70 Lakeview Ave.	4+BD/3+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont The Grubb Co.
\$2,195,000	180 Sandringham Road	4BD/4.5BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont The Grubb Co.
\$2,495,000	218 Pala	5bd/3.5ba Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential
\$2,900,000	154 Moraga Avenue	10BD/9BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Moraga Pacific Union Residential
\$3,595,000	393 Hampton Road	4BD/4BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Piedmont The Grubb Co.
\$4,750,000	86 Sea View Ave.	5+BD/5+BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union Residential
\$39,950	1480 Kildare Way	3BD/2BA Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker
\$625,000	1082 Hazel Drive	3+BD/2BA Open Sun 1-3 Coldwell Banker
Point Richmond		
\$649,000	77 Vine Ave.	2BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker
Richmond		
\$375,000	115 Marina Way	2 BD/1 BA Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Central Richmond Gallagher & Lindsey Inc.

Richmond		
\$399,950	550-28th St	2bd/1ba Open Sun. 1-4 North & East Security Pacific
\$439,000	3228 Clinton	2bd/1ba Open Sun 1-4 Red Oak Realty
\$440,000	2850 Humphrey Ave	2+bd/2ba Open Sun. 1-4 Security Pacific
\$449,000	1616 26th St.	3 BD/1.5 BA Sat & Sun 1-4 Prudential CA Realty
\$459,000	164 12th St	3bd/2.5ba Open Sat/Sun. 1-4 Keller Williams Berkeley
\$475,000	3421 Sunleaf Way	3bd/2.5ba Open Sun. 1-4 Hilltop Village Prudential
\$475,000	621 Commodore Dr	2bd/2.5ba Open Sun. 1-4 Red Oak Realty
\$495,000	462 Key Blvd	2bd/1ba Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Marvin Gardens
\$498,000	788 34th St.	3 BD/1 BA Sun 1-4 Harbor Bay Realty
\$529,900	450 36th Street	2+BD/1.5 BA Open Sat 3:30-5:30, Sun 2-5 Alameda Realty
\$625,000	22 Deep Water Ct	4BD/3BA Open Sun 1:30-4 Marina Bay Coldwell Banker
\$625,900	5302-5304 Fresno Ave	duplex Open Sun. 2-4 Coldwell Banker Bartels
\$635,000	1015 Redhawk Ct	4bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2:15-4:15 Coldwell Banker Bartels
\$647,500	1001 Lupine Ct.	4BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2:15-4:15pm Coldwell Banker Bartels-Realtors
\$659,000	2640 Meadow Crest Ct	4bd/2.5ba Open Sun 2-4 Coldwell Banker Bartels-Realtors
\$679,999	1020 Landmark Ct	4BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2:15-4:15pm Coldwell Banker Bartels-Realtors
\$699,000	5200 Gordon Ave	3bd/2.5ba Open Sun. 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty
\$739,000	3657 Park Ridge Dr.	4BD/3BA Open Sun 2:15-4:15pm Coldwell Banker Bartels-Realtors
\$775,000	11 Seabreeze	3bd/2.5ba Open Sun. 1-4 Red Oak Realty
\$786,000	3642 Park Ridge Dr.	4BD/3BA Open Sun 2:15-4:15 Coldwell Banker Bartels-Realtors
\$849,000	5420 Fresno	TRIPLEX Open Sat/Sun. 2-4 Windermere
Rodeo		
\$565,000	800 Sandy Cove Dr	3bd/2ba Open Sun. 2-4:30 Montclair Better Homes
San Francisco		
\$589,000	666 Post #1503	1+BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors
San Leandro		
\$415,000	15925 Maubert Ave. #7	3 BD/1.5 BA Sun 1-4 Prudential CA Realty
\$435,000	2295 W. 133rd Ave	2BD/1BA Open Sun 2-4:30 Marina Windermere Real Estate
\$450,000	14390 Outrigger Dr.	2 BD/2 BA Sat & Sun 1-4 Keller Williams
\$565,000	1162 Louise St.	3 BD/1 BA Sat & Sun 1-4 Keller Williams
\$599,500	15360 Laverne Dr.	3 BD/2 BA Sat/Sun 1-4 Harbor Bay Realty
\$675,000	15482 Heron Dr	4bd/2.5ba Open Sun. 2-4:30 Prudential Montclair
\$829,999	2102 Hillside	4BD/2BA Open Sun 2-4 Alain Pinel Realtors
\$949,000	1689 Vistagrand	3bd/2ba Open Sun. 1-4 Prudential Piedmont
\$1,069,000	2466 Marineview Dr.	3BD/2.5BA Open Sat 1-4 Pacific Union Residential
San Lorenzo		
\$619,000	16046 Via Medea	4bd/2ba Open Sun. 1-4 Village Prudential Piedmont
San Pablo		
\$827,999	161 San Luis Obispo	3bd/2.5ba Open Sat. 1-3 Abella Circle Security Pacific R.E.
Walnut Creek		
\$395,000	1721 South Villa Way	1bd/1ba Open Sun. 2-4 Montclair Better Homes
\$775,000	1928 Piper Ridge Court	3BD/2.5BA Open Sun 2-5 Coldwell Banker
San Mateo County		
\$1,650,000	126 Bayview	5 BD/3.5 BA Sat/Sun 1-4 Kane & Associates
Property Out of Area		
\$889,000	1260 Mills St	3bd/1ba Open Sun. 1-4 (MENLO PARK) Red Oak Realty



## ALAMEDA



**2207 SAN JOSE AVENUE \$795,000**  
**Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 1-4**  
 Stately Victorian beaming with gingerbread and ornate interior features. All period, all in exquisite condition. Pocket doors, wainscoting and medallions. New roof. Also features a spa.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**John Selbach 510-748-1170**  
**Anne DeBardleben 510-748-1175**



**1754 HIGH STREET**  
**Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4**  
 Charm throughout in this 2 bedroom, 1 bath w/fully upgraded kitchen & permitted addition that can be bedroom/den. Hardwood floors, landscaped rear yard, deck & much more.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Angela McIntyre 510-748-1121**



**451 CENTRAL AVENUE \$699,500**  
**West End Open Sat & Sun 2-4**  
 Two units w/lots of upgrades, updated kitchen w/granite counter tops, updated bathrooms & electrical, newer roof, gutters, approved blueprints w/permits for additions & MORE!  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-748-1108**  
**Steve DiGiulio 510-748-1171**



**437 SHEFFIELD ROAD \$719,500**  
**Sand Piper Cove Open Sat & Sun 2-4**  
 Rare one level Sand Piper Cove 2 bedroom, 2 bath with atrium. Low maintenance rear yard fully decked with hot tub and plenty of greenery.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-748-1108**



**2137 OTIS DRIVE #121 \$465,000**  
**St. Francis Open Sat & Sun 2-4**  
 St. Francis 2 bedroom, 2 bath first floor condo. Close to shopping, beach and more. Hurry won't last long!  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-748-1108**



**339 BROADWAY #203 \$449,500**  
**East End Open Sunday 1-4**  
 Move in ready 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with views of the lagoon and pool! 1 block to beach and Towne Centre shopping center.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Mario & Wendy Mariani 510-748-1174**



**1605 BUENA VISTA AVENUE \$898,000**  
**Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4**  
 Luxurious & sensational. Adaptable 3-4 bedroom home w/\$100K upgrades: digital communication/security system, surround sound, granite counters & MORE!  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Paola Dimacali 510-748-1148**

# Gallagher & Lindsey

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No obligation, no hassle.

**Call us at (510)521-8181 with your real estate questions**

## ALAMEDA



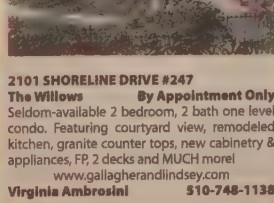
**1713-1715 9th STREET \$890,000**  
**West End Open Sunday 2-4**  
 TWO HOUSES ON ONE LOT: Great opportunity! Front house is a 3 bedroom with large living room and formal dining room. Rear house is a 2 bedroom. Live in one - rent the other!  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Alice Garvin 510-748-1116**  
**Troy Staten 510-748-1125**



**2394 MARINER SQUARE #D9**  
**Mariner Square Coming Soon**  
 Charming 2 full bedroom, 2 full bath FLOATING HOME! Top deck with 360 degree view. Built-in washer and dryer included. Pride of ownership is evident throughout this adorable home.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Angela McIntyre 510-748-1121**



**1626-1628 ALAMEDA AVENUE \$1,169,000**  
**Central Alameda By Appointment Only**  
 Colonial Revival duplex w/pocket doors, wainscoting, hardwood floors, coved ceilings and built-in cabinets. Lots of space! Brick-in courtyard garden. Plus rooms and much more!  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Michele Poulter 510-748-1157**



**2101 SHORELINE DRIVE #247**  
**The Willows By Appointment Only**  
 Seldom-available 2 bedroom, 2 bath one level condo. Featuring courtyard view, remodeled kitchen, granite counter tops, new cabinetry & appliances, FR 2 decks and MUCH more!  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Virginia Ambrosini 510-748-1138**



**1715 OTIS DRIVE \$895,000**  
**Central Alameda By Appointment Only**  
 Rare one level ranch style home on lagoon with spectacular views. 3 bedroom, 2 bath freshly painted inside and new carpets throughout.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-748-1108**

## ALAMEDA



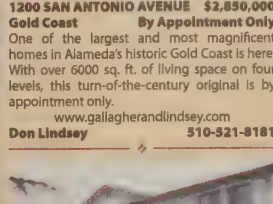
**16 GARDEN ROAD \$735,000**  
**Bay Farm Island By Appointment Only**  
 Lovely home w/Mediterranean inspired interior. Includes rumpus room, now used as master suite. Large yard w/rear access for RV/boat parking. Updated kitchen & baths.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Carol Martinez 510-748-1122**



**2529 EAGLE AVENUE \$925,000**  
**East End By Appointment Only**  
 Four-Unit income property. End unit is a large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Close to Bridgeside Center, transportation and the Park Street Market Place. Large lot with plenty of parking.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Troy Staten 510-748-1125**



**955 SHOREPOINT CT. \$325,000**  
**Central Alameda By Appointment Only**  
 Enjoy the tranquility of this 1 bedroom condo overlooking the rooftops and hills. Secure parking & lovely pool to enjoy your leisure time. Just steps from the beach.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Ruth Masonik 510-748-1101**



**1200 SAN ANTONIO AVENUE \$2,850,000**  
**Gold Coast By Appointment Only**  
 One of the largest and most magnificent homes in Alameda's historic Gold Coast is here. With over 6000 sq. ft. of living space on four levels, this turn-of-the-century original is by appointment only.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Don Lindsey 510-521-8181**



**1815 BROADWAY \$925,000**  
**East End By Appointment Only**  
 Four-Unit income property. End unit is a large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Close to Bridgeside Center, transportation and the Park Street Market Place. Large lot with plenty of parking.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Troy Staten 510-748-1125**



**311 LAGUNA VISTA AVENUE \$785,000**  
**Bay View Estates By Appointment Only**  
 Welcome to this rare one level 2+ bedroom, 2 bath home located on the lagoon in Bay View Estates. New kitchen including appliances, hardwood floors, fireplace and more!  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-748-1108**

## ALAMEDA



**881-895 CEDAR STREET \$1,250,000**  
**2216-2220 CLINTON AVENUE**  
 Just listed 6 large units. Three 2 bedroom & 1 bath, two 1+ bedroom & 1 bath, and one 1 bedroom & 1 bath. A lot of natural wood built-ins, hardwood floors, newer roof & MORE!  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Jack Cooley 510-748-1109**



**1408-1410 BAY STREET \$695,000**  
**Central Alameda By Appointment Only**  
 TREMENDOUS UP-SIDE POTENTIAL! Needs work, 3 garages, 2 one bedroom units, 2 studios  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Dale Reno 510-748-1142**



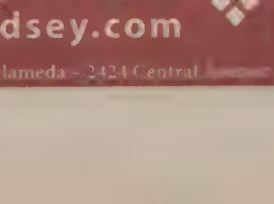
**4135 DONNER COURT \$575,000**  
**Wild Horse By Appointment Only**  
 Beautiful 4 bedroom, 3 full bath home w/bonus sitting room! Loaded w/upgrades such as: new flooring, refinished staircase, dramatic entrance w/vaulted ceiling, 2-car garage & much more!  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Darryl & Yolande Freeman 510-748-1165**



**2811 ABBEYDALE COURT \$599,000**  
**Shadow Lakes Area By Appointment Only**  
 Beautiful single story home w/designer colors throughout, many extras, golf, shopping, schools & transportation. Seller has purchased another home and is very motivated.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Mario & Wendy Mariani 510-748-1174**  
**Joe LoParo 510-748-1169**



**133 ARMSTRONG COURT \$800,000**  
**The Heights Open Sunday 2-4:30**  
 5 bedroom, 3 bath home up on a knoll of a cul-de-sac court encircled by sloping hills creating a seclusion providing panorama. The quietness seemingly not to be ever disturbed!  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Miss "Sam" McDowell 510-748-1131**



**969 VIA MANZANAS**  
**San Lorenzo Village By Appointment Only**  
 Must see Beautiful 3 bedroom on quiet tree-lined street. Enclosed boasts a koi pond with a tranquil atmosphere.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Sandi Hamilton 510-748-1174**  
**Lisa Perry 510-748-1174**

## HAYWARD



**22742 3rd STREET**  
**Hayward By Appointment Only**  
 Great 2 bedroom, 1 bath home near Hills. Remodeled kitchen, plus rooms and new carpets.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Meredith DiVita 510-748-1174**

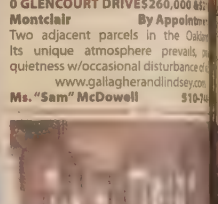
## OAKLAND



**2312 E15th STREET**  
**Oakland By Appointment Only**  
 Investor alert! 8 units recently w/ 11.5GRM, 5.2 CAP. Please do not occupy.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Kirk Knight 510-748-1174**



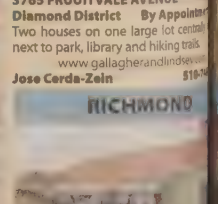
**7638 HOLLY STREET**  
**Seminary By Appointment Only**  
 Tudor style 2 bedroom, 1 bath home w/updated kitchen with granite counter tops, updated bath. Hardwood floors and more!  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-748-1108**



**0 GLENCOE DRIVES \$260,000**  
**Montclair By Appointment Only**  
 Two adjacent parcels in the Oaks. Its unique atmosphere prevails w/quietness w/occasional disturbance.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Ms. "Sam" McDowell 510-748-1131**



**6525 BUENA VENTURA AVENUE \$4 MILLION**  
**Millmont By Appointment Only**  
 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Beautiful views of city lights & bay, hardwood floors, kitchen, huge master suite & MUCH more!  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Darryl & Yolande Freeman 510-748-1165**



**3765 FRUITVALE AVENUE \$800,000**  
**Diamond District By Appointment Only**  
 Two houses on one large lot centrally located next to park, library and hiking trails.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Jose Cerda-Zeln 510-748-1174**



**115 MARINA WAY**  
**Richmond Open Sat & Sun 2-4**  
 Nice home in move-in condition. 3 bedroom, 1 bath & covered garage w/hardwood floors and wood deck. Conveniently located near BART station.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Rolando & Coqui Basora 510-748-1174**



**SAN LORENZO**  
**San Lorenzo Village By Appointment Only**  
 Must see Beautiful 3 bedroom on quiet tree-lined street. Enclosed boasts a koi pond with a tranquil atmosphere.  
[www.gallagherandlindsey.com](http://www.gallagherandlindsey.com)  
**Sandi Hamilton 510-748-1174**  
**Lisa Perry 510-748-1174**

**510.521.8181**  
[www.GallagherandLindsey.com](http://www.GallagherandLindsey.com)

West End Alameda - 1410 Webster Street

East End Alameda - 2424 Central Avenue



## Around the horn

### College Prep wins in soccer

■ Carolyn Kool, Rosemary Walker and Emma Caccamo each scored a goal as the College Preparatory School beat host Athenian 3-0 in a Bay Counties League-East girls soccer game on Wednesday afternoon. Natalia Margolis assisted on Kool's goal in the seventh minute. Jesslyn Jamison had the assist on Caccamo's in the 68th. Walker scored unassisted in the 56th. Sophomore goalkeeper Kay Williams had seven saves for the Cougars, who improved to 4-1-1 in the BCL-East and 6-3-1 overall. Athenian dropped to 3-4 in the league and 6-7-1 overall.

— Mike McGreehan

### Duffy's 30 an NCS best?

■ Piedmont High School softball pitcher Mina Duffy struck out 30 batters in a 16-inning 1-0 victory over Albany on April 19. It's nowhere close to the state record of 61 by Fairfield's Alicia Hollowell in a 30-inning 1-0 loss to Woodland in 2001, but it may be a North Coast Section best. The latest edition of the CalHiSports.com State Record Book and Almanac includes a listing of the most strikeouts in a softball game in the state. The list cuts off at 31 and no NCS pitcher is on it. That means Duffy, a sophomore, is at least tied for the all-time NCS mark. Coincidentally, third on the list is Piedmont coach Jen Deering, who fanned 49 in a 34-inning game in 1997 when she was a sophomore at North Salinas. Deering went on to star at Cal.

— Dave Carpenter

### Berkeley breaks streak

■ The Yellow Jackets softball team stopped Alameda's league winning streak at 69 with a 2-1 victory on April 19. The last time that the Hornets' softball squad lost an Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League game was on March 30, 2001, when they fell to Pinole Valley 1-0.

— Phil Jensen

### Olympic visions

■ Mark Breazeal, a 46-year-old Alameda resident, competed in the USA Taekwondo national qualifying tournament in Anaheim on April 22-23. Breazeal, a 163-pound welterweight (158-172.0 pounds) competing in the 18-older age group, advanced to the tournament by virtue of being a first-degree black belt. The top four individual fighters at Anaheim advanced to the USA Taekwondo senior national tournament set for Cleveland, Nov. 3-5. The top performers there become part of the U.S. national team, whose members can qualify for the Olympics in Beijing in 2008. Breazeal did not make the cut this time but will have other chances — he plans to compete in the next national qualifying meet in Dallas, May 13-14.

— Mike McGreehan

### Early start

■ The St. Joseph Notre Dame track and field team test drove the track at James Logan, which will host the North Coast Section Bay Shore Meet on May 20, at the Top 8 meet on Saturday. Freshman Damajeria DuBose finished fifth in the 400 meters with a time of 1 minute, 05.07 seconds and she was 16th in the 800 (2:42.76). Nneke Uneh was 16th in the 100 (13.77) and 10th in the 200 (28.30). On the boys side, Antoine Burns was 25th (13.11) in the 100 and Jason Rockwell was 27th (13.49). Demetrius Robinson was ninth in the 200 (24.22) and 11th in the 200 (11.55). Nick Rodriguez was sixth in the 1,600 (4:30.05) and fourth in the 3,200 (10:00.32). Abram Pringle finished third in the 300 hurdles (40.52).

— Robert Jordan

### On deck

■ **Alameda vs. El Cerrito**, baseball, May 3 at Cerrito Vista Park, El Cerrito, 4 p.m. — The Hornets were 4-0 entering the week in the ACCAL standings, and the Gauchos were 3-0.

■ **Alameda at Berkeley**, swimming, April 28, 3:30 p.m. — The Hornets prep for the ACCAL swimming championships with their final league meet. Berkeley is the only team standing in the Alameda's way to an undefeated regular season.

■ **Encinal at Berkeley**, baseball, May 3 at San Pablo Park, 4 p.m. — The Jets will try to snap their four-game ACCAL losing streak to the Yellow Jackets. Encinal last beat Berkeley on May 7, 2003, 5-3. That win was Encinal's third straight over the Yellow Jackets.

■ **Albany at Piedmont**, softball, May 3, 3:30 p.m. — These teams just played a classic last week with Piedmont coming away with a 1-0 victory in 16 innings. Piedmont ace Mina Duffy struck out 30 batters, and Albany's defense forced the Highlanders to leave 17 runners on base.

### Stars of the week

■ **Mina Duffy**, Piedmont softball — The sophomore ace struck out 30 hitters in a 16-inning, 1-0 victory for the Highlanders over host Albany. Duffy also hit two doubles and a single for Piedmont.

■ **George Dy**, Piedmont boys golf — Dy shot an 8-over 78 to lead the Highlanders to a BSAL championship at Tilden Park Golf Course in Berkeley. Dy placed fifth overall in the league tournament.

■ **Jeanette Lam**, Berkeley softball — The senior left fielder had game-tying RBI hits in Berkeley's historic 2-1 win over Alameda and a 6-5 victory over Liberty.

■ **Lauren Lopez**, St. Mary's girls track and field — Lopez broke personal and meet records three times in the triple jump at the Phillips-McCain Invitational, finishing with the winning mark of 38 feet, 6 inches, one of the best marks in the region.

■ **Rebecca Molinari**, Albany girls track and field — Molinari broke the school record in the shot put with a mark of 36 feet, 9 inches at the Top 8 Invitational at James Logan on Saturday. She finished fourth in the event.



SHERRY LAVARS/STAFF

THEO WILSON, left, of Berkeley and Matt Ries of Bishop O'Dowd battle during Tuesday's match in Oakland.

# Hunt makes ex-teammates pay

■ Former O'Dowd lacrosse player scores game-tying, winning goals in Berkeley's 8-7 come-from-behind victory

By Mike McGreehan

STAFF WRITER

Fast. Exciting. Action-packed. A nail-biter of a game decided in the final seconds.

Tuesday evening's Diablo Valley Lacrosse League boys game between Berkeley and Bishop O'Dowd high schools was all of that. And more. The teams played an intense, aggressive game, generating a pace and

tempo most fitting for squads that entered the game ranked 10th and 11th in Northern California by laxpower.com.

The game had another facet, too. Berkeley, the 11th-ranked team, had the final say, as former O'Dowd player Ben Hunt came back to haunt his old team by scoring two goals in a 21-second span — the last with 6 seconds remaining — to lift the Yellow Jackets to an 8-7 win.

Hunt finished with three goals for the Yellow Jackets (8-7, 3-2 DVLL), the game-winner overshadowing the four-goal effort of former teammate James Sherrer for the Dragons (8-5, 1-3).

"When (O'Dowd) was up by one,

we stuck around, we didn't quit," Yellow Jackets coach Mike Costanzo said. "We've been fighting hard all year long, and it finally paid off today."

O'Dowd, which had never previously trailed in the contest, looked to have the win in hand when Alex Miller scored for a 7-6 lead with 39 seconds left. But the celebrating didn't last long for the Dragons, as Hunt pulled the Yellow Jackets even again just 12 seconds later.

"We didn't let down," O'Dowd coach Wayne Shaffer said. "My guys did everything they could today. All the credit to Berkeley. They just got a possession and did a good job of coming back and scoring."

Overall, the game had a physical edge. And exciting as the action was for the fans, both teams made their share of mistakes. Arguably, the game's intense nature led to some of the offside and illegal procedure calls against both squads.

Sherrer, a junior attacker, looked to make the game his personal showcase with two first-quarter goals to lift the Dragons to a 2-0 lead.

Hunt put the Yellow Jackets on the scoreboard at 11:43 of the second quarter, the first of three goals the teams combined for in the span of 50 seconds.

See BERKELEY, Page 2

# EC's Hollands shakes off the flu, no-hits Berkeley

By Phil Jensen

STAFF WRITER

El Cerrito High School's Mario Hollands fired a no-hitter with 10 strikeouts Tuesday to lead the Gauchos past Berkeley 2-0 at Cal's Evans Diamond.

Gauchos coach Brian Nichols called Hollands' performance "phenomenal" and mentioned that Hollands had the flu.

"He was incredible," said Nichols about the lefthander. "Mario is definitely one of the top four or five pitchers ever to go to El Cerrito that I know of."

Hollands, who has signed a letter-of-intent with UC Santa Barbara, did not allow a baserunner for 4½ innings, and only three Berkeley batters reached base in the game. Grant Long walked in the fifth inning, Brian Guinn was hit by a pitch in the sixth inning and Delency Baker reached base on an error in the seventh inning.

The Gauchos scored the game-winning run in the first inning. With two outs, Doug Murray and Hollands walked, then Marquis Evans hit a 1-2 pitch into right-center field to score

## ROUNDUP

Murray.

El Cerrito (8-3, 4-0 Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League) scored their final run in the fifth.

With one out, Murray doubled down the left field line. On a 2-0 pitch, Hollands hit a curve ball into right field for an RBI single.

Andrew Johnson and Tyler Bremmer combined for a five-hitter for the Yellow Jackets (1-4 ACCAL).

## GOLF

**Bay Shore Athletic League tournament:** Albany's Adam Barkow stood at Tilden Park Golf Course's practice putting green and nailed three straight putts from a foot out.

But 10 minutes earlier, the same putt lipped out, costing him a shot at the Bay Shore Athletic League individual title Monday.

Barkow's miss allowed St. Joseph Notre Dame's Blake Yu to par the first hole of a playoff and win his second straight individual title.

See ROUNDUP, Page 2



GREGORY URQUIAGA/STAFF

ALBANY'S Adam Barkow finished second, losing in a playoff to St. Joseph Notre Dame's Blake Yu, in the BSAL golf championships.



## ALBANY-BERKELEY GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE

## Micro Division

**Jane Hammond Events Blue Jays v. Thunderbolts:** Thunderbolts shortstop Kelsey Hira out on past second base to retrieve a line drive, and then turned to throw it home to prevent a runner from running home to score. Playing second base for the Blue Jays, Hannah Murray single-handedly forced out a runner at second, an unassisted put-out on a sharply-hit ground ball.

## Younger Division

**On the Beam Hammerheads 14, Junket Dolphins 13:** The Dolphins scored three runs in the first inning with whopper hits by Sofia DiBenedetto, Jasmine Masten, Andrea Levinson and Derby Gill. On defense, Hammerhead Mave Regis made an impressive, unassisted play at second base. The Hammerheads offense featured line drives by Ariane Nevarez, Annie Ward and Jazmyne Nevarez. Both teams did played strong defense as well. DiBenedetto made two impressive plays at pitcher, catching a fly ball and turning a sharp grounder and throwing to Alejandra Zeiger at first for the out. Sharp team play by Hammerheads Sophia Anner and Annie Ward stopped a Dolphin rally in the second inning, nailing the runner at second base. In the third, with the bases loaded, Hammerhead Annara Summerford Anial ended another Dolphin rally with an unassisted play at third for the out.

## Middle Division

**Red Oak Realty Rebels 7, Prins Chiropractic Dynamite 0:** Katy Robinson's three base hits led the Rebels' offensive attack, supported by Molly Greene and Booth Carlson's doubles in the first inning. Jane Huff, Anna Supton, Bailey Wockner and Veronica Timpane also had base hits. The Dynamite responded with hits by Sydney Sturgeon, Mia Jauregui and Reyna Fa-Kaji. Dynamite catcher Monica Wiemels excelled on defense, teaming with Margot Friedman and Jauregui to get two successive Rebel runners out at home plate.

**Impact Fund Meteors 3, Berkeley Orthodontics Oompa Loompas 1:** Meteor Pitcher Cory Labov came out firing, striking out three of the first four batters in the game. In the bottom of the first, Meteor Faith Valdez hit a double, followed a single by Jennie Olson that brought two runners home. Natalie Burns connected for another Meteor score. In the third inning, the Oompa Loompas battled back with numerous hits, including a powerful line drive to ward third for a single.

**Zonta Bulldogs 3, Vivian Lopez Queen Bees 1:** Bee Jordan Baker made a very strong showing with big hits, two stolen bases and a run. Also hitting hard and pitching well in the first inning was Bee

Roisin Shannon. Bee third-baser Kendal Kirkman showed off her strong arm with a pinpoint throw to first base for an out in the first. Bee Nia Willis also showed off some solid fielding skills throughout the game. The Bulldogs stepped up their offense in the second inning when Cristina McCue hit a big single into the outfield, advanced to second on another solid hit by Julia Foster, stole third, and was driven home by Reid Schneider. Schneider later hit a single to bring Foster in for the second run. Excellent pitching by Bulldog Sasha Kramer and fielding by the Bulldogs kept the Queen Bees to one run. After Bulldog Alyssa Kurtz stole third, Kramer drove her in for the final run.

## Older Division

**Alliance Graphics Lucky Onions 13, Friedman Brueggemeyer 9:** Anansa Ridley led off the first with a single for Oakland and later scored. Elena Jacobs-Pontecorvo showed off her quickness running down a foul pop to end the Alliance scoring threat. Kaylah Cohen hit a single to lead off for FB. Kate Moore and Anna Moore reached to load the bases, then Kyle Daniels, Madeleine Salem, and Sarah Hoynes notched consecutive RBIs. In the second for Alliance, Ridley loaded the bases with a single to left field after a Julie Moorad walk and a Jenna Brotsky single. Annie Smith and Marsa Budong notched RBI, and Tess Lubin-Brown, who had three hits for the day, followed with a powerful RBI blast into the outfield. Daniels ended the inning with an RBI shot to right field. Onion catcher Cathenne Cove made a tough play at home tagging out Kaylah Cohen with a short-hop scoop. The pitching duel became fierce in the fourth inning when Kate Moore and Izzy Lubin-Brown battled it out from the mound. Lubin-Brown had nine strikeouts in her three innings.

**Oakland Crush 12, Tulip Terror 8:** After Oakland jumped to an early lead on Malory Wilson's RBI single to right-center, Tulip battled back with Camille Jackson driving in Ayla Nietschmann on a solid drive to left. Oakland's Imani Curtis-Contreras' lead-off double to center and Dre Carme's RBI single highlighted the second inning for Oakland. Oakland pitcher Micaela Tautalautasi held Tulip scoreless in the bottom of the second. In the third, Tulip pitcher Carol Sturgeon struck out one and limited the Crush to two runs, with help from center fielder Camille Dyhr, who made a key catch on a high fly to center, and catcher Jackson, who tagged out a runner at home. Oakland's pitcher Emily Equich-Miller struck out three in the third. Izzy Lubin-Brown, on loan from Alliance Graphics, started the fourth inning by striking out the first two Oakland batters. Amanda Wentworth singled for the Crush,

but Tulip's Dinora Murota made a fine catch to retire the side. In the bottom of the fourth, Sturgeon racked up an RBI scoring Jackson. In the fifth, Oakland combined walks with hits from Tarese Womak and Eguchi-Miller to score twice. In the bottom of the fifth, the Terror's Lindsey Baker came through with a clutch single, driving in two runs. Baker also took the mound in the sixth, retiring the first batter herself. Stasha Marcon made a stunning catch on the run for the second out, and Baker retired the side with a strikeout. The Tulip Terror came out swinging in their half of the inning, with Jackson ripping a double to left and scoring on a single from Lubin-Brown. Murota beat out an infield single, and Lubin-Brown scored for Tulip.

**Sweet Potatoes 5, Strategic Economics XX 4:** Sweet Potato pitcher Zoa Pollock struck out five in two innings in Saturday's game. XX pitcher Corey Chin struck out three and threw out three at first. On offense, Chin stole two and scored. XX catcher Sonya Javits fired the ball to first for the out as the runner dashed on a dropped third strike. Later Javits stole her way around the bases and into home to score. Bethany Cloherty snagged a hard hit ball at third and fired it to Helen Masson at first for the out. Ulah Hubbard pitched three strikeouts, caught a fly, and fired one to Maria Price-Hanson at first for another out. On offense, Hubbard made a surprise-bunt double. Price-Hanson had a good outing as pitcher and on offense singled and stole four bases in two innings. The Sweet Potatoes' Wendy Ho executed two excellent defensive plays from third for two outs. Sweet Potato Megan Tokunaga's base stealing advanced the team's cause and her two-run single late in the game turned the tide in the Potatoes' favor.

**Dart Vend Vendetta 7, Adobe Thunder 7:** Playing short-handed, Dart Vendetta came from behind to tie Adobe Thunder in six innings. The first inning started out with strong pitching by Beatrice Wendel and solid defense from Daria Talin-Tugwell for Adobe Thunder. Thunder capped a four-run second inning with a two-run double by Natalie Cohen. Ula Rosenfeld provided additional timely Thunder hitting. Vendetta received strong hitting by Zoe Fidler, base stealing by Laurel Oldershaw and excellent pitching by Christina Sechak. Thunder pitcher Fiona Riley shut out Vendetta in the middle four innings, fanning six. In the fifth, Vendetta's Marina Hunt, Ellie Arkin and Allie Presher teamed for a snappy double play. Also in the fifth, Thunder catcher Maggy DiCostanzo fired a bullet to Clara Obstfeld covering second to foil a steal attempt. In the bottom of the sixth, Vendetta loaded the bases and scored several runs, coming from behind to tie the game.

## Roundup

FROM PAGE 1

"It is frustrating," said Barkow, who tied Yu for medalist with a 2-over 72. "I should have won it in regulation."

A senior, Barkow still advanced to the North Coast Section South Qualifier on May 8 at Metropolitan Golf Links in Oakland. The top three teams from Monday's BSAL championships advanced, as well as the top three individuals not on a qualifying team.

Piedmont won the 18-hole event with a five-golfer score of 419. St. Joseph was second at 421, and St. Patrick-St. Vincent followed at 441.

St. Mary's Michael Lombardi beat Salesian's Anthony HiHi on a playoff hole for the final spot. Lombardi and HiHi both shot 87s for 18 holes.

Barkow was on pace to card the day's only sub-par round after an eagle at 13 put him at 1 under. But he bogeyed four of his final five holes.

"I hit the ball well today," said Barkow, who also lost to Yu on a playoff hole at last year's championship. "I just didn't putt that great."

Albany's Joy Kim, who won the girls BSAL individual title last fall, nearly joined Yu and Barkow in the playoff. Kim missed a 30-foot birdie putt on 18 and settled for par. Kim finished with a 73 but didn't advance because she competed in the girls NCS. Albany does not field a girls golf team.

## SOFTBALL

**Antioch 5, Berkeley 4, (8):** The Yellow Jackets (8-3) scored two runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to force extra innings in the HASA Invitational championship game on Saturday in Antioch. But the Panthers scored two runs in the top of the eighth to win. Amelia Kurashige-Elliott hit a solo home run in the sixth inning and was named all-tournament, along with teammate Aurelia Cheng.

**Berkeley 6, Liberty 5 (9):** The Yellow Jackets advanced to the championship game of the HASA Invitational with a thrilling victory over the Lions on Friday.

Both teams scored three runs in the eighth inning. The Yellow Jackets went ahead for good in the top of the ninth. In the international tiebreaker, Sophie Kline moved from second to third on a fielder's choice by Hannah Badal, and then Kline scored on a sacrifice fly by Jeanette Lam.

Sarah Neuhaus struck out 14 batters for the Yellow Jackets and Aurelia Cheng went 3-for-4 with a double, a triple, and two RBI.

**GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD**  
**Phillips-McCain Invitational:** St. Mary's Lauren Lopez was in a zone. The senior set personal and meet records on each of her first three attempts in the girls triple jump Saturday at Campolindo.

She didn't just break those records; she shattered them. Lopez, who entered the competition with a personal record of 36 feet, 8 1/2 inches, went 37-5 on her first attempt, 37-11 1/2 on her second and the winning mark of 38-6 on her third. Only

10 girls in the state have had a mark longer than that this season, as of April 15. The previous Phillips-McCain meet record had been 35-8 1/2.

"I really just wanted to attack (the first attempt) so bad. When I PR'd, I said I was satisfied to PR, but they kept coming," Lopez said. "I felt really ready for (the competition). I'm really excited."

Lopez also finished second in the long jump (16-11 1/2) and teammate Erica Green was fifth (15-4 1/2). The Panthers also were second in the 800-meter relay (1 minutes, 46.54 seconds) and 400 relay (50.37). Brittany Donnie was second in the 300 intermediate hurdles (48.36), and Panthers teammate Darrina Willis was second in the 100 (12.74). Christina Johnson was fourth in the triple jump (34-7) and Sara Brajkovich was fifth in the discus (97-10) for St. Mary's.

**Top 8 Invitational:** Albany's Rebecca Molinari set a school record in the shot put with a mark of 36-9, good for fourth place at Saturday's invitational at James Logan.

**BOYS TRACK AND FIELD**  
**Phillips-McCain Invitational:** St. Mary's had a good showing in this invitational at Campolindo Saturday. The Panthers won the distance medley relay in 10:46.60 and was second in both the 3200 relay (8:25.26) and the 1,600 relay (3:30.13). St. Mary's Adam Marvin was fifth in the 300-meter individual hurdles (43.40 seconds).

Staff writer Robert Jordan contributed to this roundup.

## HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	California	9-2	Grizzlies get revenge for 2005 EBAL season-ender with 2-0 win over Monte Vista
2.	Amador Valley	10-2	Dons hammer Encinal, win Stargell Classic for third time in five seasons
3.	Acalanes	12-2	Dons get back on track after close loss to Amador Valley
4.	De La Salle	11-4	Spartans roll through National Classic unscathed, have won five straight
4.	Alameda	10-4	Third place at the Stargell by the skin of their teeth over Foothill
6.	Monte Vista	7-4	Mustangs lose three straight after taking over the No. 1 spot
7.	Dublin	10-3-1	Win one, lose one, tie one: middle of the road last week for the Gaels
8.	Alhambra	12-4	Bulldogs win own Easter tourney for first time since 1999
9.	Clayton Valley	11-4	Mr. Burns' one-hitter makes Liberty say, "D'oh!"
10.	Antioch	10-4	Five-game win streak halted by shaky performance vs. Alhambra in tournament

**Also receiving votes:** Deer Valley (9-5), Encinal (9-4), College Park (9-6). The baseball poll incorporates all East Bay high schools and is compiled by the staff of Contra Costa Newspapers. Results are through Saturday.

## HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL POLL

Rank	School	Record	Comment
1.	Freedom	12-0	Wins five Best of the West tournament games by a combined score of 28-0
2.	Newark Memorial	17-0	Cougars cruise to Standley Cup championship
3.	Foothill	11-2	Falcons run the table after losing Stampede opener to Valley Christian
4.	Monte Vista	9-3	Takes third in Stampede
5.	James Logan	13-3	Colts decide not to play final game at Standley Cup
6.	Pinole Valley	8-2	Wins first three games at Standley Cup but loses to Clayton Valley 2-1
7.	Benicia	7-2	Overwhelms Bethel 15-0 and 16-0 in two makeup games
17.	California	8-3	Grizzlies lose heartbreakers to Monte Vista, Antioch
9.	Concord	5-2	Entering this week, Minutemen had not played since April 14
10.	Antioch	8-4	Win over California could be huge when it comes time to seed NCS

**Also receiving votes:** Brea Christian (9-1), Deer Valley (7-7), Clayton Valley (7-4) The prep softball poll incorporates all East Bay high schools and is voted on by the staff of Contra Costa Newspapers. Records are through Saturday.

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PLEASE RECYCLE

## Berkeley

FROM PAGE 1

Sherrer looked to put O'Dowd back on track with his third goal at 11:27, but Tim Clymer scored for the Yellow Jackets off a pass from Colin Tilley at 10:53, narrowing O'Dowd's lead to 3-2.

Tilley later added two goals to go along with his assist.

Tom Anderson scored for O'Dowd at 3:59, giving the Dragons a 4-2 lead that they took into halftime.

Berkeley finally pulled even on third-quarter goals by Eddie Rodman and Tilley, but O'Dowd re-established its lead on Sherrer's final goal with 1:17 left in the period for a 5-4 advantage.

The game's back-and-forth nature continued in the fourth quarter as Tilley tied the score at 5-5, only to see James Magers put O'Dowd ahead again with 2:43 left in the game.

Berkeley stayed tough, however, as Mikel Willis-Parraga equalized again just 24 seconds later.

O'Dowd enjoyed a one-man advantage when Miller scored his team's last goal. Miller's goal also

resulted from the game's most aesthetically pleasing piece of teamwork as Matt Hearn took control of a Berkeley clearance on his side of midfield, delivered a perfect pass ahead to Tom Gourhan, who in turn made a pinpoint strike to Miller, who beat Yellow Jackets goalkeeper Jon Singer-Vine one-on-one.

Defensively, Singer-Vine kept his team in the game with five big saves.

Likewise, O'Dowd goalkeeper Alex Remar was alert and agile in front of the net. He finished with six saves, including one as time expired in the first half.

When the final horn sounded, both teams left the field knowing they had given their all in a thriller from start to finish.

## Lacrosse

## High school boys

## DIII

## Berkeley 8, Bishop O'Dowd 7

At Bishop O'Dowd HS

**Halftime:** O'Dowd 4, Berkeley 2. **Scoring:** Berk — Ben Hunt 3, Colin Tilley 2, Tim Clymer, Eddie Rodman, Mikel Willis-Parraga. **BOD** — James Magers 4, Tom Anderson, James Magers, Alex Miller. **Assists:** Berk — Erik Lyness, Tilley, Willis-Parraga. **BOD** — Tom Gourhan 2, Joe Balch, Matt Hearn. **Saves:** Jon Singer-Vine (Berk) 5, Alex Remar (BOD) 6. **Records:** Berkeley 9-7, 3-2 DIII; Bishop O'Dowd 8-5, 1-3.

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NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. Reviewers are Randy Myers, Contra Costa Times; Robert W. Butler, Chris Hewitt, Steven Rea, Carme Rickey and Rene Rodriguez, Knight Ridder; Bruce Newman, San Jose Mercury News; David Gorman, Christy Lamira, Associated Press; Bob Longino, Cox News Service; Anita Gates, Dave Kehr, Manohla Dargis, A.O. Scott, New York Times; Jani Bernard, Jack Matthews, New York Daily News; Bob Strauss, Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Carina Chocano, Kevin Crust, Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Ed Bark, Nancy Churnin, Gary Dowell, Chris Vogner and Philip Wuntch, Dallas Morning News; Colin Covert, Minneapolis Star Tribune; Jay Boyar and Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel; Carla Meyer, Sacramento Bee; Ty Burr and Wesley Morris, Boston Globe; Steve Persall, St. Petersburg Times; Curt Fields, Ann Hornaday, Stephen Hunter, Philip Kinnick, Michael O'Sullivan and Desson Thomson, Washington Post.

**"ADAM & STEVE":** It's the standard romantic comedy formula of boy-meets-girl, boy-loses-girl, boy-gets-girl, except it's boy-meets-boy. Adam looks up with Steve in the '80s, but their first date is ruined. They fall for each other again in the present. The twist? They don't remember they met 17 years earlier, and since we do, we worry about what will happen when they figure it out. — C. Hewitt. (NR: contains R-level nudity, drug use and strong language.) 1 hour, 40 minutes.

**"AMERICAN DREAMZ":** When this screening of the Bush administration and our obsession with celebrity hits the right notes, it's as entertaining as Kelly Clarkson solo. But satire is tough, and director/writer Paul Weitz ("American Pie") isn't always up to the challenge. With Hugh Grant as the sleazy "American Idol"-type host, and Dennis Quaid as the befuddled president, Mandy Moore, too. — R. Myers. (PG-13: brief strong language, some sexual references.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. C+

**"ATL":** A movie of understated charms, "ATL" will be compared to "Roll Bounce," but only by the intellectually lazy. The hero, Rashad (rapper T.I.), dates a fellow skating rink regular named New-New. But New-New's neighborhood is a bit nicer than Rashad knows. Meanwhile, Rashad's buddy Esquire hustles others at the country club where he works, earning him taunts of "Tiger God" and "Black Nicklaus." — C. Gorman. (PG-13: some violence, mild language and drug use.) 1 hour, 45 minutes. B

**"AQUAMARINE":** Set in a beach resort, where two friends, Claire and Ben, are about to be separated

(one is moving to Australia). Then the duo finds a mermaid in the pool, which means they have to deal with the mermaid, the moving-away thing and a cute, blond lifeguard named Ray. Nothing original here, but there's a sense that the script understands how 'tween girls think. — C. Hewitt. (PG: mild language, sexuality.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. C+

**"ASK THE DUST":** Salma Hayek is sultry and Colin Farrell is studly, but they have zero chemistry in this cheesy, clueless Depression-era romance directed by the venerable Robert Towne, who wrote the screenplay for "Chinatown." — R. Myers. (R: some sexuality, nudity, language.) 1 hour, 57 minutes. D+

**"AWESOME: ... I SHOT THAT!":** The Beastie Boys handed out video cameras to 50 fans and told them to go wild gathering footage of their sold-out October 2004 Madison Square Garden show. The intention was to capture an authentic audience experience. The result: a jerky, headache-inducing experience that is almost unwatchable. — C. Lemire. (R: language.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. C

**"BASIC INSTINCT 2":** Psychopathic novelist Catherine Tramell (Sharon Stone) lures a control-freak psychiatrist (an amebic David Morrissey) into her kinky parlor. But it takes more than 90 minutes for this bozo to muster up the chutzpah to go there. That's part of the problem in this unsexy sequel to the 1992 steamhovel. Stone outrageously brings this baby home, and even sports a nifty hair style that should become all the rage at beauty shops. — R. Myers. (R: strong sexuality, nudity, violence, language and some drug content.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. C-

**"THE BENCHWARMERS":** David Spade and Jon Heder are two virginal nerds whose lifetime of getting picked on is avenged when they join their pal, Gus (Rob Schneider), for a three-on-nine baseball scrimmage against some Little League bullies. If flatulence, crotch-kicks, tequila-benders and nerd revenge are your thing, by all means, head to a multiplex. — R. Moore. (PG-13: crude and suggestive humor, and language.) 1 hour, 20 minutes. D

**"BRICK":** A film noir set mostly in a Southern California high school sounds a lot like a "Saturday Night Live" skit. But first-time director Rian Johnson makes it sing, paying reverence to movies of the past while bringing in a contemporary spin. Joseph Gordon-Levitt ("Mysterious Skin") is excellent as a tough-talking teen out to nab his ex-girlfriend's killer. The journey takes him into a suburban world of drug-dealing, full of freaks and geeks. Done in a style that boldly reinvents a film genre. — R. Myers. (R: violence, drug content.) 1 hour, 50 minutes. A-

**"BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN":** Two cowboys (Jake Gyllenhaal and Heath Ledger) fall unexpectedly in love in director Ang Lee's masterful ode to the West and romance. The pair meet and find themselves impossibly attracted to each other while herding sheep on Brokeback Mountain, then form a clandestine relationship that lasts 20 years. Everything about this beautiful and evocative film works, from the cast to the direction to the score. — R. Myers. (R: sexuality, nudity, language and some violence.) 2 hours, 14 minutes. A

**"CAPOTE":** Philip Seymour Hoffman shouldn't be the only name considered for an Oscar nomination in this rich and powerful film about the making of a masterpiece and the undoing of a writer. Hoffman never misses a beat playing flamboyant author Truman Capote. The assured movie, from director Bennett Miller, follows the egomaniacal author through the process of writing his masterpiece, "In Cold Blood." Catherine Keener is exceptional as Capote's friend, and assistant, Harper Lee. — R. Myers. (R: some violent images and brief strong language.) 1 hour, 50 minutes.

**"THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE":** The childlike wonderment we experienced when we first encountered the magical world of author C.S. Lewis is replicated in this enchanting adaptation. Four children living in England's countryside during WWII enter a wardrobe that takes them to a winter wonderland where an evil White Witch (Tilda Swinton) with killer fashion sense is in a tug-of-war with a majestic and virtuous lion (voiced by Liam Neeson). The film with Christian themes lags as it enters its more talky third final act, but "Narnia" casts quite a spell. — R. Myers. (PG: battle sequences, frightening moments.) 2 hours, 20 minutes. B+

**"CSA: THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA":** Filmmaker Kevin Willmott adroitly combines the techniques of the mock documentary with the philosophy of alternate or "what if" history. It provocatively presents the world as it would be if the South had won the Civil War and slavery persisted to this day. A world that, in a savage twist, is closer to the one we live in than we might imagine. — K. Turan. (Not rated.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. B-

**"CURIOUS GEORGE":** In the animated adaptation of H.A. Rey's gentle children's classics, museum curator Ted meets George while leading an African expedition for a fabled idol. The statue is just the thing needed to boost the museum's falling attendance, but naturally the mission doesn't go as planned. Ted's main trophy from Africa is the friendly little monkey, whose high jinks back in the big city help save the museum. — C.

Covert. (G) 1 hour, 37 minutes. B

**"DATE MOVIE":** The "brainchild" of two members of the "Scary Movie" writing team skewers the romantic comedy genre. Just as spoofy and trashy as those other movies, but maybe a tad more sophisticated. Could be better material, or the acting gifts of Alyson Hannigan ("American Pie"). — B. Strauss. (PG-13: sex, language.) 1 hour, 23 minutes. B

**"DAVE CHAPPELLE'S BLOCK PARTY":** A good-timey vibe lasts from beginning to end of "Party," which is mostly musical performances but also has segments where Chappelle does his thing. The comedian is effortlessly hilarious, whether he's chatting with lucky Dayton, Ohio, residents who snagged all-expenses-paid trips to the concert, or rehearsing deliberately awful jokes. — C. Hewitt. (R: drug references, strong language.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. B+

**"DEEP SEA 3D":** This excellent IMAX movie has a message about the importance of relationships under the sea. It travels seamlessly from "cleaning stations" where green sea turtles get algae scraped off their backs to an octopus devouring a helpless crustacean — and beyond. — N. Churnin. (Not rated.) 45 minutes. A-

**"THE DEVIL AND DANIEL JOHNSTON":** If you're a fan of cult musician Daniel Johnston, you'll want to see this documentary on the man and his life. If you're not a fan, you're going to wonder what the fuss is about. A performer of formidable self-absorption, Johnston has inspired a film with the same trait, and the results are about what you might expect. — K. Turan. (PG-13: thematic elements, drug content and language including a sexual reference.) 1 hour, 50 minutes. C

**"DON'T COME KNOCKING":** The film plays like a greatest-hit collection stuck on replay. Despite "Knocking's" artistic pretensions and preening — a drama about a Hollywood cowboy caught in a web of family ties, new and old — it is just rehash, filled with one shouting match after another. The film has some fleeting moments of greatness, but it's not enough to get us through the winning. Film veterans Sam Shepard and director Tim Wenders should be raising the bar, not resting their elbows on it. — R. Myers. (R: language, brief nudity.) 2 hours, 2 minutes. C

**"DO'N'T TELL (LA BESTIAL NEL CUORE)":** Directed by Cristina Comencini and based on a novel she wrote, this foreign language film Oscar winner not only charts a tale of a young woman who gradually awakens to the fact that her dear, departed dad molested her many years ago, but it also takes us on crowd-pleasing side trips that lighten the weight of the heavy main melodrama. — B. Strauss. (R: sexual content, nudity,

OPENING TODAY

**"AKEELAH AND THE BEE" (PG)** An 11-year-old girl (Keke Palmer) enters a spelling bee against her mother's (Angela Bassett) wishes. Laurence Fishburne plays her tutor.

**"THE FALLEN IDOL" (NR)** Rerelease of director Carol Reed's 1948 melodrama about the son of a French ambassador who uncovers the secrets of adults he knows. Based on a Graham Greene story.

**"HARD CANDY" (R)** After an Internet chat, a teenage girl meets a thirty-something photographer at a coffee shop and then goes back to his place. Ellen Page and Patrick Wilson star.

**"RV" (PG)** A workaholic executive (Robin Williams) steers his family away from a Hawaiian vacation and onto an RV road trip for a bit of bonding. Jeff Daniels co-stars.

**"STICK IT!" (PG-13)** A judge sentences a 17-year-old rebel (Missy Peregrym) to a gymnastics school. Jeff Bridges plays the coach in this comedy from the writer of "Bring It On."

**"UNITED 93" (R)** Director Paul Greengrass ("Bloody Sunday") re-creates the doomed Sept. 11 flight in which passengers

retaliated against hijackers.

**"WATER" (PG-13)** A widowed 8-year-old girl is sent to live with other Hindu widows in 1938 colonial India. The spirited girl's presence affects everyone around her in this drama directed and written by acclaimed filmmaker Deepa Mehta ("Fire" and "Earth").

**Coming soon**

**"MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE III" (PG-13)**

Tom Cruise returns for another installment of the action blockbuster. With Oscar-winner Philip Seymour Hoffman as the bad guy. (May 5)

**"POSEIDON" (PG-13)** Can anyone replace Shelley Winters? A remake of the classic, set aboard a cruise ship, this time directed by Wolfgang Petersen. (May 12)

**"A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION" (PG-13)** Garrison Altman teams with writer Garson Kellor for this film version of Kellor's beloved radio show. With Meryl Streep, Lily Tomlin, Tommy Lee Jones and Lindsay Lohan. (June 9)

language, a brief violent image; in Italian with subtitles.) 2 hours. B

**"DUCK SEASON":** Mexican filmmaker Fernando Eimbcke captures the restlessness and confusion of adolescence in ways both funny and profound. Best friends Flama and Moko have the day mapped out — junk food and video games. But you know what they say about the best-laid plans. This is one of those beautifully observed movies in which not much seems to happen, but in reality, everything does. — G. Whipp. (R: language, some drug content, in Spanish with subtitles.) 1 hour, 25 minutes. B+

**"EIGHT BELOW":** A sort of "Old Yeller" in the Antarctic about eight intrepid sled dogs left behind when a blizzard cuts off travel, and the mushy musher who resolves he's not going to take that lying down. Paul Walker is Jerry, the guy who takes a meteor-hunter into the mountains, where accidents happen and the dogs do their Saint Bernard act. — R. Moore. (PG: some peril, brief mild language.) 2 hours. B

**"EVIL":** This Swedish film set at an elite boys' school in the mid-1950s illustrates how cruelties exacted in the name of initiation are perpetuated year after year. What happens when a student breaks the code of blind obedience and stands up to the leaders? An aggressive newcomer learns the consequences of defiance the hard way. — S. Holden. (NR: in Swedish, with English subtitles.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. C

**"FAILURE TO LAUNCH":** Misguided enough to think we want to see Terry Bradshaw's saggy fanny. We'd much rather see the well-tended rears of attractive leads Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew McConaughey. A zigzagging comedy about a dihard bachelor still living at home (McConaughey) and the woman hired to woo him away. The supporting characters, including Kathy Bates and Zoey Deschanel, steal the show. — R. Myers. (PG-13: sexual content, partial nudity, language.) 1 hour, 37 minutes. C

**"FINAL DESTINATION 3":** When a class outing ends in a roller-coaster tragedy, the lucky few who ditched the ride at the last moment discover they're not so lucky after all — they're

scheduled for extermination anyway. Two scramble to find clues to their friends' impending doom in photos taken at the amusement park. — C. Covert. (R: strong horror violence/gore, language, some nudity.) 1 hour, 30 minutes. C+

**"FIREWALL":** Harrison Ford returns to his frantic roots as a bank security expert whose family is held hostage by captors resembling members of a boy band. Both Virginia Madsen as his wife and Paul Bettany as the chief of the baddies are wasted in this feeble and ineptly written thriller. — R. Myers. (PG-13: some intense sequences of violence.) 1 hour, 45 minutes. D+

**"FREEDOMLAND":** A white woman (Julianne Moore) says she was carried by a black man, a claim that sets off racial tension in a New Jersey housing project and leads to a search for the missing child she claimed was in her back seat. This intense, morally complex thriller also stars a solid Samuel L. Jackson as a detective skeptical about her story. The movie has its failings, including a miscast Moore, but it is gripping and takes us to places we don't expect. — R. Myers. (R: language and some violence) B

**"FRIENDS WITH MONEY":** A quartet of marvelous actresses — Frances McDormand, Catherine Keener, Joan Cusack and Jennifer Aniston — shine in this wry and observant comedy-drama about a group of Southern California women coping with life, mates and money ... or the lack of it. Writer/director Nicole Holofcener proves yet again how astute she is at exploring the minds and emotions of complex female characters. R. Myers. (R: language, some sexual situations, brief drug use.) 1 hour, 28 minutes. A-

See MOVIES, Page C5

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Showtimes for Friday April 28

Alameda County

**Albany Twin**  
1115 Albany Ave., Albany 510-464-5980  
•Friends With Money (R) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:35  
•Hook (R) 2, 4:30, 7, 9:25

AMC Bay Street 16

1104 Broadway St., Emeryville 510-457-4262  
•Akeelah and the Bee (PG) 12:20, 1:20, 2:25, 3:55, 5:25, 6:25, 8:05, 9:05, 10:45  
•American Dreamz (PG-13) 12:40, 3, 4:55, 6:10, 10:35  
•The Benchwarmers (PG-13) 12:15, 2:25, 4:35, 7, 9, 11  
•Friends With Money (R) 12:50, 3:10, 5:15, 7:15, 9:40  
•Inside Man (R) 1:45, 4:40, 7:45, 10:40  
•RV (PG) 12:10, 1:10, 2:40, 3:40, 5:05, 6:15, 7:25, 8:25, 9:50, 10:50  
•Scary Movie 4 (PG-13) 12, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:05, 4:30, 5:30, 6:05, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10, 10:30  
•The Sentinel (PG-13) 12, 1, 2:35, 3:35, 4:40, 6:10, 7:55, 8:40, 10:25, 11:05  
•Take the Lead (PG-13) 1:05, 3:50, 7:05, 10:05  
•For Vendetta (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 10:10  
•The Wild (G) 12:05, 2:05, 4:25, 6:55, 9:55

California Theatre

1104 Broadway St., Berkeley 510-464-5980  
•Hard Candy (R) 2, 4:30, 7, 9:30  
•Thank You for Smoking (R) 12:45, 1:45, 3, 4, 5:15, 6:15, 7:30, 8:30, 9:40

Chabot Space & Science Center

1000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland 510-336-7300  
•Theatres for movies and times.

Emwood 3

500 George Ave., Berkeley 510-649-0530  
•Capote (R) 4:25, 6:45  
•Am & Sex Addict (Not Rated) 4:30, 7:30, 9:30  
•The Mayor de Mi Hermano (R) 5:40, 8:40, 8:30  
•Veronica (R) 9

Renaissance Grand Lake Theatre

1045 Grand Avenue, Oakland 510-452-3556  
•Akeelah and the Bee (PG) 11:30, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8:25  
•Inside Man (R) 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45  
•RV (PG) 12, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10  
•The Sentinel (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15

Reks Theatre

1750 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley 510-526-1836  
•The Sentinel (PG-13) 5, 7:45.

Rockway Speakeasy Theatre

1000 Rockway Blvd., Oakland 510-814-2400  
•Dave Chapelle's Block Party (R)

•The Notorious Bettie Page (R) 7.  
•Transamerica (R) 6:30.  
•v For Vendetta (R) 9:15.

Piedmont Theatre

4185 Piedmont Ave., Oakland 510-464-5980  
•Friends With Money (R) 12:45, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45  
•Thank You for Smoking (R) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30  
•Tsotsi (R) 12, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45, 9

Regal Jack London

100 Washington, Oakland 510-433-1320  
•Akeelah and the Bee (PG) 11:35, 2:15, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15  
•American Dreamz (PG-13) 11:50, 2:25, 4:55, 7:25, 9:40  
•RV (PG) 11:30, 2, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45  
•Scary Movie 4 (PG-13) 12, 2:20, 4:40, 7, 9:20  
•The Sentinel (PG-13) 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20, 12:05  
•Silent Hill (R) 12:45, 4:20, 7:20, 10:25  
•Stick It (PG-13) 11:30, 2:10, 4:45, 7:15, 9:55  
•United 93 (R) 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8, 10:30  
•The Wild (G) 11:45, 2:05, 4:15, 7:05, 9:15

Shattuck Cinemas

2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-464-5980  
•Akeelah and the Bee (PG) 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35  
•Brick (R) 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 9:55  
•The Celestine Prophecy (PG) 1:30, 3:55, 7, 9:30  
•Inside Man (R) 2, 5, 8  
•Kinky Boots (PG-13) 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 10  
•Lucky Number Slevin (R) 1:55, 4:30, 7:15, 9:40  
•Mountain Patrol: Kekexili (Not Rated) 4, 8:45  
•The Notorious Bettie Page (R) 2:05, 4:25, 7:25, 9:50  
•RV (PG) 1:45, 4:20, 6:50, 9:15  
•Take the Lead (PG-13) 1:50, 3:40  
•United 93 (R) 1:20, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45

United Artists Berkeley 7

2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-466-1852  
•American Dreamz (PG-13) 11:30, 2, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20  
•eIc Age: The Meltdown (PG) 12, 2:10, 4:30, 7, 9:20  
•Scary Movie 4 (PG-13) 12:30, 2:40, 5, 7:10, 8:10, 9:30, 10:30  
•Silent Hill (R) 11:45, 2:30, 5:15, 8, 10:45  
•Stick It (PG-13) 11:45, 2:20, 4:50, 7:40, 10:10  
•v For Vendetta (R) 12:40, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50  
•The Wild (G) 11:50, 1:50, 3:55, 6

United Artists Emery Bay Stadium 10

6330 Christie Ave., Emeryville 510-420-0107  
•Hard Candy (R) 11:50, 2:10, 4:35, 7:05, 9:30  
•eIc Age: The Meltdown (PG) 12, 12:45, 2:15, 3, 4:30, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45  
•Lucky Number Slevin (R) 11:50, 2:25, 5:05, 7:40, 10:20  
•Silent Hill (R) 11:45, 1:45, 2:45, 4:45,

5:45, 7, 7:45, 9, 9:45, 10:30  
•Stick It (PG-13) 12, 2:30, 5, 7:25, 9:55  
•Thank You for Smoking (R) 12:05, 2:25, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40  
•United 93 (R) 12:15, 1:30, 2:50, 4:15, 5:25, 7:15, 8, 9:50, 10:35

Central Contra Costa

Renaissance Orinda Theatre

4 Orinda Theatre Sq., Orinda 925-254-0060  
•Akeelah and the Bee (PG) 1, 3:45, 7, 9:30  
•Friends With Money (R) 12, 2, 4, 6, 7:45, 9:45  
•Thank You for Smoking (R) 12:30, 2:45, 5, 7:15, 9:15  
•Rheem All Stadium 4 \*  
3000 Park St., Moraga 925-988-3411  
•RV (PG) 5:15, 7:45, 10  
•The Sentinel (PG-13) 5:05, 7:35, 10  
•Silent Hill (R) 5:10, 7:30, 9:55  
•Stick It (PG-13) 5, 7:40, 9:50

West Contra Costa

Century 16 Hilltop

3200 Klose Way, Richmond 510-758-2345  
•Akeelah and the Bee (PG) 11:30, 1, 2:15, 3:45, 5, 6:30, 7:45, 9:15, 10:30  
•American Dreamz (PG-13) 12:20, 2:45, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20  
•The Benchwarmers (PG-13) 12:55, 3, 5:05, 7:05, 9:20  
•eIc Age: The Meltdown (PG) 12:35, 2:55, 5:10, 7:20, 9:35  
•Inside Man (R) 1:05, 4, 7, 9:50  
•RV (PG) 11:35, 12:45, 2, 3:10, 4:20, 5:35, 6:50, 8, 9:10, 10:25  
•Scary Movie 4 (PG-13) 11:35, 1:40, 3:45, 5:50, 7:55, 9:55  
•The Sentinel (PG-13) 12:05, 2:40, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10  
•Silent Hill (R) 12:10, 1:35, 3:05, 4:25, 6, 7:25, 9, 10:15  
•Stick It (PG-13) 11:55, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:45  
•Take the Lead (PG-13) 11:50, 2:15, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40  
•United 93 (R) 11:45, 2:20, 4:55, 7:30, 10:05  
•The Wild (G) 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:55, 8, 10

San Francisco

AMC Van Ness 14

1000 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco 415-922-4262  
•Akeelah and the Bee (PG) 12, 1:25, 2:35, 4:10, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20  
•American Dreamz (PG-13) 12:35, 3:05, 5:40, 8:20, 10:55  
•eIc Age: The Meltdown (PG) 12:40, 2:55, 5:05, 7:15, 9:35  
•Inside Man (R) 1:35, 4:35, 7:35, 10:30  
•Lucky Number Slevin (R) 12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 8:10, 10:50  
•RV (PG) 1, 2, 3:30, 4:25, 5:55, 7, 8:15, 9:30, 10:40

•Scary Movie 4 (PG-13) 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:20  
•The Sentinel (PG-13) 12:05, 2:45, 5:25, 8:05, 10:45  
•Silent Hill (R) 1:40, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35  
•Stick It (PG-13) 12:45, 3:15, 5:50, 8:25, 11  
•Take the Lead (PG-13) 9  
•United 93 (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:25  
•v For Vendetta (R) 7:05, 10  
•The Wild (G) 12:15, 2:30, 4:40, 6:45

AMC Kabuki 8

1681 Post Street, San Francisco 415-922-4262  
•San Francisco International Film Festival

Bridge Theatre

3010 Geary Blvd., San Francisco 415-267-4893  
•Hard Candy (R) 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10

Castro Theatre

429 Castro St., San Francisco 415-621-6120  
•Clay theatre for movies and times.

Clay Theatre

2261 Fillmore Street, San Francisco 415-267-4893  
•Rushmore (R)

Embarcadero Center Cinemas

1 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco 415-267-4893  
•Brick (R) 1, 4:20, 7:20, 10  
•Friends With Money (R) 12, 1:10, 2:20, 4:40, 6, 7:10, 9:30  
•Thank You for Smoking (R) 12:10, 2:30, 3:30, 5, 7:30, 9:30, 9:50  
•Water (PG-13) 1:20, 4:10, 7, 9:40

Lumiere Theatre

1572 California St., San Francisco 415-777-3456  
•The Celestine Prophecy (PG) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:35  
•The Fallen Idol (1948) (Not Rated) 2:45, 5, 7:30, 9:45  
•Kinky Boots (PG-13) 2, 4:30, 7, 9:25

Opera Plaza Cinema

601 Van Ness Ave., San Francisco 415-267-4893  
•The Devil and Daniel Johnston (PG-13) 1:30, 4, 6:45, 9:20  
•Marilyn Hotchkiss' Ballroom Dancing and Charm School (PG-13) 4:30, 9:35  
•Mountain Patrol: Kekexili (Not Rated) 2, 7, 15  
•Transamerica (R) 1:45, 4:45, 7, 9:30  
•Tsotsi (R) 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 9:4



# Your East Bay Auto Experts

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**NIPPON**

EUROPEAN MOTORS

## Ask the expert: Question: When I hit a pothole what does it do to my car?

Answer: What are the consequences of repeatedly driving into potholes is a question almost all drivers in this area should be asking. If you take a look around there are many road obstacles that you can encounter with your vehicle, potholes tend to be one of the worst. They are deep and wide and many times you are unable to maneuver around them. When you drive into a pothole it shakes the entire car and rattles the driver. There are many sorts of damage that result from hitting a pothole. Below I have listed some of the items that are most effected by this type of driving.

1. Alignment. This is probably the most common problem that results from driving into a pothole. Once the car wheel enters the pothole and jerks the suspension the alignment is compromised.
2. Tires. Tire damage or tire blow outs can be caused by potholes. Especially if you are driving at higher speeds when you encounter one.
3. Wheels. Aluminum alloy wheels are very soft and can buckle or twist when forced down into a pothole. Especially at risk are oversize wheels with low profile tires. Once the wheel is bent you may feel a wobble when driving or worse the tire will not longer seat on the wheel rim and can result in the tire dismounting. Unfortunately we see lots of expensive wheels that have been damaged.
4. Wheel Balance. Driving into a pothole can knock off wheel weights. This creates a wheel imbalance and will cause a shimmy which can be felt through the steering wheel at higher speeds.

5. Suspension. Your car's suspension is there for these type of driving situations. However, like everything these components wear out. Rough road driving reduces the life expectancy of your car's suspension. Potholes can bend tie rods, blow out ball joints and cause undue stress on bushings.
6. Struts and shocks. These two items are designed to absorb the shock from the road. Driving into a large pothole can blow out strut insert or damage a rear shock. At our shop we have seen several cars that have had the entire strut tower assembly bent probably due to a deep pothole or driving up onto a curb.
7. Body Frame. In severe cases the frame can bend damage as a result of slamming into a pothole at the wrong angle. It's a wrong place, wrong time thing. If you hit the pothole at a certain angle and the wheel cannot rebound the way it was designed to it can cause the frame to bend.
8. Internal Rattles. Driving on uneven pavement or into potholes regularly will cause the interior components to loosen up and begin to rattle. Many of these items are not fixable and unfortunately can increase the noise level within the passenger compartment.

In closing I will advise that whenever possible as long as it is safe try and maneuver around potholes, rough pavement and large road debris. Your car will thank you for it.

Once again I hope this answers some of the questions you have regarding your car and potholes.

From: Melissa Holmes, Owner Bob's Volvo-Toyota Specialists  
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Movies

FROM PAGE C3

**"GOOD NIGHT, AND GOOD LUCK":** George Clooney directed, wrote and costars in this sharp black-and-white film about veteran newsman Edward R. Murrow's tangle with anti-Communist fanatic Joseph McCarthy (wisely depicted in archival footage). The film both educates and entertains, reminding us of an important episode in history that resonates today. — R. Myers. (PG: mild thematic elements, profanity) 1 hour, 33 minutes. A

**"THE HILLS HAVE EYES":** Repulsive and this film is, it's also suspenseful and has something serious on its mind: long-term, irreversible effects of nuclear testing that resulted in a bunch of mutated, cannibalistic humans who feast on a family that pulls into their deserted corner of the desert. — C. Hewitt. (R: gruesome violence, strong language) 1 hour, 47 minutes. B

**"I AM A SEX ADDICT":** Either Bay Area filmmaker Caveh Zahedi is crazy or daring for making an unvarnished documentary about his addiction to prostitutes. This fascinating but odd experiment will shock you with its frankness and make you laugh out loud. But at more than 90 minutes, it's a bit long. — R. Myers. (R: nudity, sex, drug use and dirty talk) 1 hour, 38 minutes. B-

**"AGE AGE: THE MELTDOWN":** Three friends — Manny the mammoth, the sloth and Diego the saber-toothed tiger — head out on a journey to find an ark as an ice dam surrounding their village threatens to buckle. There are sound moral lessons for the kiddies, and seeing the always enjoyable rat/squirrel ragtag chasing after an elusive acorn is fun. But the animation is much better than the screenplay. — R. Myers. (PG: some mild language and innuendo) 1 hour, 25 minutes. C+

**"INSIDE MAN":** This star-studded drama not only saves director Spike Lee from a slumping career, but revitalizes the genre. Four robbers, led by Dalton Russell (Clive Owen), take nearly 50 people hostage at a Manhattan bank. But nothing is quite as it seems. Denzel Washington is the negotiator on the scene. — R. Myers. (R: language, some violent content) 2 hours, 9 minutes. A-

**"BOYEUX NOEL (MERRY CHRISTMAS)":** In mining the strange but true stories of Christmas fraternization across enemy lines, writer-director Kristian Caron beautifully captures a moment in time during World War I when the impersonal madness in the trenches ebbs amid a spirit of holiday cheer. — D. Germain. (R: war violence, brief sexuality; in French, German, English and Latin, with subtitles) 1 hour, 51 minutes. B+

**"KONG KONG":** A spectacular, but long-winded — three hours plus! — remake from director Peter Jackson ("Lord of the Rings"). Naomi Watts makes a wonderful damsel in distress, a vaudeville actress who becomes the object of the 25-foot ape's affection. The creature is a special-effects marvel, who expresses both sympathy and fury as he woos the beauty who will be his downfall. Also added to Skull Island — a tropical nightmare filled with hellish sights and savages. — R. Myers. (PG-13: frightening adventure violence and

some disturbing images.) 3 hours, 7 minutes. B+

**"LARRY THE CABLE GUY: HEALTH INSPECTOR":** Larry, aka Dan Whitney, drives his mudder pick-up truck, the one covered in American flag, gun-nut and Hooters bumper stickers, lets his jeans ride too low and lets loose with his trademark neck riffs as he tries to solve a series of food poisonings leading up to a city-wide "cook off." — R. Moore. (PG-13: crude and sexual content, and for language.) 1 hour, 29 minutes. D

**"L'ENFANT (THE CHILD)":** The first thing we hear in the Dardenne brothers' latest character study is a baby crying. The father, Bruno, is a petty thief who impulsively lives for himself. Given that Bruno exploits young kids to steal for him, he's probably never going to qualify for Father of the Year. But even after his fence casually mentions that there's a hot black market for newborn babies, what Bruno does next is truly horrifying. — G. Whipp. (R: brief language; in French with subtitles) 1 hour, 31 minutes. A-

**"THE LIBERTINE":** In this flagrantly vulgar film about the rude, de-caulched second Earl of Rochester, actor Johnny Depp runs wild. With his Van Halen-like mane, dirty fingernails and perma-sneer, he makes the lurid goings-on in this filthy 17th century period piece watchable. Director Laurence Dunmore should have picked up the pace, but he's created a dreary England we rarely see on the big screen. — R. Myers. (R: strong sexuality including dialogue, violence and language.) 1 hour, 55 minutes. B-

**"LONESOME JIM":** This quirky and shuffling independent film features marks another entry in the ever-popular you can and should go home again genre. Casey Affleck, brother of Ben, plays a struggling writer who returns to his Indiana hometown and his wacky relatives. Liv Ullmann plays the lone light in this depressed fella's world. "Jim" is as funny as it is cruel, but it often feels like we've been on this road too often. — R. Myers. (R: language, some sexuality and drug content.) 1 hour, 32 minutes. B-

**"LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN":** An overly smug screenplay trips up this mistaken-identity thriller with Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman, Josh Hartnett and Ben Kingsley. The twists come fast and furious, but the overly clever dialogue and anemic performances from Freeman and Kingsley drag down this crime thriller about a patsy caught in the middle of a mob war. Lucy Liu does brighten things up, almost to a blindingly fluorescent level. — R. Myers. (R: strong violence, sexuality and language.) 1 hour, 50 minutes. C+

**"MADEA'S FAMILY REUNION":** Tyler Perry wrote, directed, produced and scored this sequel to "Diary of a Mad Black Woman." Think of it as a department store: Melodrama on the first floor, gospel sermon on the third. Not to mention fart jokes and sex riffs. But there's a message about self-respect too, and it's hard to ignore. — W. Morris. (PG-13: mature thematic material, domestic violence, sex, drug references.) 1 hour, 47 minutes. C

**"MARILYN HOTCHKISS' BALLROOM DANCING & CHARM SCHOOL":** John Goodman's character, Steve, narrates from a smoking heap of a car wreck and, later, from

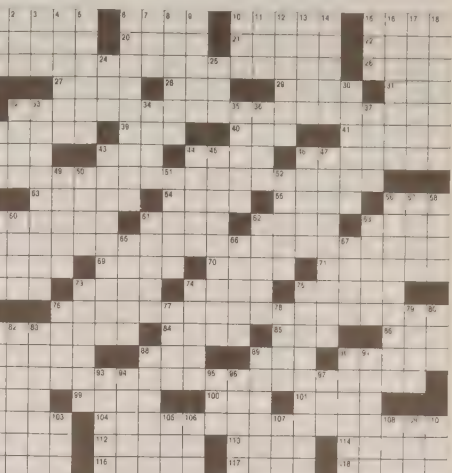
NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

WHAT'S THE STORY? By JOE DIETRICH / Edited by WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS  
1 Picks up  
6 Sea lettuce, e.g.  
10 Wide open  
15 15-Down rival, once  
19 Taking time  
20 Attends  
21 They're towed away  
22 See 98-Across  
23 Footwear eaten by an animal?  
26 Turnstile  
27 Page  
28 Instant  
29 General \_\_\_\_\_ chicken  
31 Old-time welcome  
32 Clue that helped convict a movie snack thief?  
38 Wretched  
39 Get all lovey-dovey  
40 Police car maneuver, slangily  
41 Cell, e.g.  
42 Like the ans. to this clue  
43 One in a six-pack  
44 N.Y.S.E. and Nasdaq, e.g.  
46 Like some fishing hooks  
48 Subborn person getting on another's nerves?
- DOWN  
53 Black  
54 \_\_\_\_\_ weight  
55 Built  
56 Weed  
59 Went after  
61 Shot up  
62 Rub the wrong way  
63 Home to some Mongolian nomads  
64 Thug whose books aren't selling?  
68 Dust Bowl refugee  
69 Mitsubishi competitor  
70 Vandalia  
71 Famed Georgia football coach  
72 Vice  
73 Sparkle  
74 Tuna salad ingredient  
74 River isles  
75 Thick  
76 Nicholson negotiating with Stiller and Affleck?  
81 Less than explanatory parental explanation  
84 Bowl's over  
85 H.S. class  
86 Call from a meadow  
87 Cousin of a cobra  
88 I must be in the genes  
89 B.A. Baracus portrayed on TV  
90 Starting to get blue?

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- 92 Supreme rulers blow up a major hardware store?  
98 With 22-Across, movie hero of 1977  
99 Hot  
100 Mortar mixer  
101 Acute  
102 Twin sister of Ares  
104 Cousins of a disheveled wading bird?  
111 Going \_\_\_\_\_  
112 Spots on a graph  
113 One of the Woughs  
114 Priest's urging  
115 "Only Time" singer  
116 Annual parade honoree, for short  
117 Point  
118 Sound at the front of East Hampton
- DOWN  
1 Buddy of the Clintons, e.g.  
2 Apple had one in 1980. Abbr.  
3 Funky do  
4 Called  
5 Due for a drop-off?  
6 "Like that matters"  
7 Actor Canou  
8 Bugs  
9 Leftovers at a barbecue  
10 Hedge fund whiz, for short  
11 "Whaddya know?"  
12 What two palms up may indicate



- 59 Horse sound  
60 Long walk  
61 Andrea Doria's domain  
62 Wash out  
63 Write (for)  
65 Colonnade Mike  
66 \_\_\_\_\_ Chris Steak House (restaurant chain)  
67 Saturn and Mercury, for two  
73 House keeps  
74 Negative campaign feature  
75 Water, perhaps  
76 Be in harmony  
77 Billionth Prefix  
78 Intruder's deterrent, maybe  
79 Chaps  
80 Start of song  
81 "Count me in"  
82 And  
83 Extra  
88 Dusty floor cleaner  
89 Breakfast cereal  
90 Ungodlike  
91 Must pay  
93 Station house figures  
94 Jump for joy  
95 Ship over there?  
96 Show agreement with  
97 Pint-sized, downsized  
103 Irish  
105 Filthy  
106 Mil. transport  
107 Knockout of knockouts  
108 \_\_\_\_\_ Tiki  
109 Beethoven's "Minuet"  
110 Once

an ambulance. The story he tells, through flashbacks, is of his early 1960s childhood when he favored cursing and roughing up girls. To his horror, young Steve's mom enrolls him in church school, where he falls in love with a fellow pupil. — W. Morris. (PG-13: mature situations and language.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. C-

**"MATCH POINT":** Woody Allen takes on a new game and, for the most part, scores. The movie, set in England instead of New York, pays homage to film noir with its dark themes. Jonathan Rhys Meyers stars as a tennis pro smitten with his new, upper-crust friend's fiancée (Scarlett Johansson). The film-school symbolism and tennis metaphors can be a bit much, but that can almost be ignored in a movie filled with suppress and snappy exchanges. — R. Myers. (R: some sexuality.) 2 hours, 4 minutes. B

**"MOUNTAIN PATROL: KEKEXILI":** The Tibetan antelope is one of the most beautiful endangered species. Its wool is highly prized but is so fine it can only be harvested by killing the animal. Based on reported accounts of a Tibetan militia that volunteered to protect the herds from rapacious poachers in the 1990s, this film may be an old-fashioned outdoor adventure, but it's a harrowing one. — B. Strauss. (NR: violence, sex, language; in Mandarin and Tibetan with subtitles.) 1 hour, 39 minutes. B

**"MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS":** This mildly naughty and fitfully entertaining comedy/drama finds Judi Dench playing a familiar role, that of an upstart widow who likes to engage in a battle of wits with anyone she encounters. Dench is indeed delightful as Laura Henderson, proprietor of a vaudeville theater where the actresses

go nude to buoy business, and Bob Hoskins as the theater manager she hires. But the tone shifts, slipping away the comedy in favor of drama and the resulting fusion doesn't gel. — R. Myers. (R: nudity and brief language.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. C+

**"MUNICH":** Director Steven Spielberg creates another masterpiece in this harrowing, fictionalized account of the fallout involved when political retribution enters the global landscape. Eric Bana ("Troy") portrays the head of a secret Israeli team out to pick off the masterminds behind the 1972 Munich Olympics massacre. This powerful thriller, the year's best, asks us to consider the effectiveness — and human toll — of political vendettas. — R. Myers. (R: strong graphic violence, some sexual content, nudity and language.) 2 hours, 44 minutes. A

**"NANNY McPHEE":** Emma Thompson wrote and stars in this family film. Done up with hairy warts and a snaggletooth, she's the latest nanny for seven unruly children living in the English countryside. The A-list cast (Colin Firth, Angela Lansbury) has a great time, and "McPhee" is nearly always pleasant, if less than spectacular. — R. Myers. (PG: mild thematic

elements, some rude humor and brief language.) 1 hour, 37 minutes. B-

**"ON A CLEAR DAY":** In this well-meaning British formula, Scottish actor Peter Mullan plays an out-of-work shipbuilder whose quest to swim the English Channel becomes a source of inspiration to everyone around him. — C. Outlier. (PG-13: some language.) 1 hour, 38 minutes. C

**"THE PINK PANTHER":** This remake of the Peter Sellers classic brings only a few satisfying laughs. The coach of the French national soccer team is murdered, and his priceless ring vanishes. Police Inspector Dreyfuss (Kevin Kline) assigns the case to the country's most inept cop. The idea is for the media to follow the bumbling Clouseau (Steve Martin), thus freeing Dreyfuss to actually solve the murder. — R. Butler. (PG: occasional crude and suggestive humor and language.) 1 hour, 32 minutes. C

**"ROVING MARS":** The first half of this large-format film is a peek into the detailed work a huge cadre of astronauts must finish before the craft can head for Mars — a long-shot trip that one astronaut likens to "shooting a basketball from Los Angeles to New York and having it go through without touching the rim." Things get

even better when the craft lands and begins gathering information. — C. Hewitt. (G) 40 minutes. B+

**"RUNNING SCARED":** This savagely gory thriller about Mafia retribution could easily be rated NC-17. Directed by Wayne Kramer ("The Cooler"), it has abusive husbands, a yuppie couple that dabbles in pedophilia, even hockey-puck torture. That said, it's stylish and energized, at times even clever. — R. Myers. (R: pervasive strong brutal violence and language, sexuality, drug content.) 2 hours, 2 minutes. B-

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- Zuppa del Giorno \$5  
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- Crespelle \$8  
Rosemary crepe stuffed with fontina,  
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- Cozze \$9  
Roasted mussels with tomato,  
white wine & fresh herbs
- Antipasti \$12  
Filo filled with sun dried tomatoes, risotto cakes,  
marinated vegetables, kalamata olives, prosciutto,  
hot coppa & smoked mozzarella
- Bruschetta \$5  
Housemade toasted bread topped with  
fresh tomatoes & basil
- Insalata Mista \$6  
Mixed greens tossed with a balsamic vinaigrette
- Insalata di Spinaci \$9  
Spinach, arugula, apples, pecans & Vermont white  
cheddar tossed in a dried sour cherry vinaigrette
- Insalata de Polle e Gorgonzola \$10  
Mixed greens, smoked chicken, roasted peppers,  
gorgonzola & toasted walnuts tossed in a  
lemon vinaigrette
- Insalata Cesare \$8  
Romaine tossed with a traditional dressing  
using anchovies & croutons  
Add smoked chicken \$10

### Pasta

- Linguine con Gamberetti \$15  
Shrimp, prosciutto, chili flakes & swiss chard  
in a creamy tomato sauce
- Linguine con Vongole \$14  
Clams with white wine, garlic & herbs
- Spaghetti di Melanzane e Pomodori \$12  
Roasted eggplant, spinach, olives,  
sun dried tomatoes, garlic & fresh ricotta
- Spaghetti Puttanesca \$11  
Olives, anchovies, capers, tomato & chili flakes
- Spaghetti Salsiccia e Funghi \$13  
Housemade Italian sausage, marinara sauce,  
onions & mushrooms
- Penne Nocciola \$11  
Tossed with a Hazelnut basil pesto  
& goat cheese pecorino
- Fettuccini con Pancetta \$13  
Fresh housemade pasta with snap peas,  
shiitake mushrooms & prosciutto with cream sauce
- Rotelle ala Chix \$13  
House favorite with smoked chicken,  
roasted peppers, & mushrooms tossed in a  
garlic rosemary cream sauce
- Housemade Gnocchi \$13  
Potato pillows in a spicy tomato sauce  
with smoked bacon & fontina
- Farfalle con Carciofi \$12  
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# THE DINING GUIDE

## Featured Menu

### Secondi

- Branchio con Aglio \$32  
Whole Dungeness crab roasted with garlic,  
fresh herbs, black pepper lemon & butter  
served over housemade trenette pasta
- Cioppino \$22  
Dungeness crab, fish, mussels & clams with  
andouille sausage in a tomato-saffron broth  
with garlic toast
- Pesce del Giorno A.Q.  
Please ask server for daily fish special
- Bistecca \$27  
Ribeye, with port-balsamico sauce  
garlic roasted masted potatoes & fresh vegetables
- Maiale \$20  
Niman Ranch spice coated Porterhouse pork chop  
with apple beurre blanc mashed potatoes  
& snap peas
- Vitello \$16  
Veal scallopini with a marsala mushroom sauce  
& roasted vegetables
- Pollo Arrosto All Aglio e Rosmarino \$15  
Half roasted chicken with roasted garlic & rosemary  
served with roasted vegetables  
(Please allow 20 minutes)

### Contorno

- Vegetale \$5  
Roasted seasonal vegetables with olive oil
- Take a loaf of ZZA's bread home \$4  
Baked fresh daily

### Pizza

- Margherita \$11  
A classic with mozzarella, tomato & fresh basil
- Salsiccia e Funghi \$12  
Housemade Italian sausage, tomato, mushrooms,  
red onion, smoked mozzarella & fresh herbs
- Rustica \$12  
Smoked chicken, cilantro pesto,  
roasted red peppers, scallions & jack
- Funghi \$11.50  
Portabellows mushrooms, gorgonzola,  
fontina, tomatoes & basil
- Pomodori e Carciofi \$11.50  
Artichokes, sweet peppers, tomatoes,  
basil & mozzarella
- Salame \$12  
Dry salame, kalamata olives, capers,  
& mozzarella with fresh herbs
- Pepe \$12  
Pepperoni, marinara & mozzarella
- Gamberetti e Pancetta \$14  
Marinated shrimp, smoked bacon,  
portobello mushrooms & mozzarella
- Pizza del Giorno A.Q.  
Please ask server for the seasonal specialty pizza

### Calzone

- Calzone Classico \$12  
With Housemade Italian sausage, greens,  
tomato, ricotta & mozzarella
- Calzone Alessandro \$12  
Smoked chicken, cilantro pesto, mozzarella & jack

### Saturday & Sunday Only

11AM-3PM

### Brunch

- Mimosa \$8.50  
Prosecco & fresh orange juice
- Frittata \$8  
Open faced omelette with red potatoes,  
bell-pepper, green onion, mushrooms,  
tomato, basil & fontina
- Omelette \$9  
3 eggs, with zucchini, eggplant,  
andouille sausage, tomatoes & mozzarella with  
roasted potatoes & toast
- French Toast \$7  
Classic favorite, with orange & cinnamon
- Breakfast Pizza \$10  
3 eggs, potatoes, pecorino, scallions & choice of  
smoked bacon or housemade Italian sausage
- ZZA's Scramble \$9  
3 eggs scrambled with Italian sausage, mushrooms  
& onions served with roasted potatoes & toast

### Sides

- Chicken apple sausage \$3.50  
2 eggs any style \$2.50  
Roasted potatoes \$2.00

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Oakland location is closed  
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For fine Italian dining at its best, visit Café Enrico overlooking the beautiful  
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exceptional wine selections. From gourmet seafood plates to Old World  
pastas, chicken dishes, sandwiches and even a dieter's menu, Café Enrico  
truly offers something to please everyone. In fact, many guests dine in two  
and three times a week. House specialty steamer (Manila clams and fresh  
seafood cioppino) are not to be missed. *Café Enrico is open daily Sat & Sun*  
*Brunch is served until 3 pm and Early Bird Specials (12.95) are served Mon-Fri*  
*until 6 pm and Sat & Sun until 5 pm.* For reservations, please call (510) 522-  
0129. MC, Visa, AME, handicap access. Casual attire. \$\$.

#### Katsu Sushi

1465 Webster Street, Alameda, (510) 749-8461  
West Alameda's newest restaurant, Katsu Sushi, invites guests to an upscale  
dining experience with classic simplicity. Chef Sang Kim prepares all dishes  
from scratch and seafood is brought in fresh, directly from Japan. The menu  
is extensive, ranging from an extraordinary selection of sushi and sashimi,  
Udon/Soba, Donburi (over rice dishes), to pasta and an impressive variety of  
sake. Architect Duk Lee has created a dramatic backdrop for guests,  
marrying modern art with traditional design elements. Attention to even the  
most minor aesthetic detail is also mirrored in the elegant presentation of  
Katsu's dishes, offerings that are as much a work of art to the palate as to the  
eye. *Katsu is open for lunch Mon-Fri from 11:30am to 2:30pm and open for dinner*  
*Mon-Thurs & Sat from 5:30pm to 10:30pm. Fri & Sat 5:10pm. Reservations recommended.*

#### Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant

300 - 29th Avenue, Oakland (510) 261-1621  
Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29  
Waterfront Restaurant. For over 30 years the restaurant has been located  
adjacent to the Park Street Bridge overlooking the Alameda/Oakland estuary.  
The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, Angus New York  
steak, prime rib, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The  
theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on  
weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular early bird menu is featured  
daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking.  
*The Pier is open 7 days a week. New business hours: Sun. - Thurs. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.,*  
*Fri. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner.*

#### Sushi House

2375 Shoreline Drive, Alameda (510) 865-0999  
When it comes to sushi, one place on the island comes to mind. Come  
experience why locals & out-of-towners alike flock to Sushi House. Whether  
you're a fan of modern or traditional Japanese cuisine, Sushi House will  
delight your senses w/unique, award-winning sushi creations not found  
elsewhere on either side of the Bay. You've tried the rest. Now try the best! All  
seafood is delivered daily to ensure unrivaled quality & freshness. Showcasing  
these excellent beginnings are chef/owner James' own creations such as  
"Crazy Horse" - tuna, hamachi, salmon & avocado; "Crazy Monkey" -  
yellow tail, salmon, eel, tobiko and cucumber; & "Dynamite" - yellow tail,  
salmon, tuna & habanero deep fried w/house special sauce - spicy! Frequent  
Sushi House diners John & Salle Crittenden agreed that "James is a real artist  
& his sushi is the freshest we've ever tasted." *Sushi House is open nonstop from*  
*11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday & 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Fridays &*  
*Saturdays. Plenty of free parking. From an intimate date to a big celebration,*  
*Sushi House is the hip & trendy place to be in Alameda AE MC VS \$\$.*

#### Amarin Thai Cuisine

1332 C Park St., Alameda CA 94501 (510) 748-0296  
For 16 years, we have catered to Alameda with delicious, award-winning food  
and warm service in a friendly atmosphere. Make a normal day, your special  
day, by dining here at Amarin Thai. Celebrate Senior Citizens every  
Wednesday. We recognize and value your patronage and are offering 10%  
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family is very important to us and so is yours! Bring in your family and dine  
with us and receive a 10% off your meal. Our private banquet facility can  
accommodate large parties with great service and scrumptious food. *Celebrate*  
*your holidays at Amarin Thai with Delicious, inviting, and affordable holiday*  
*planning. We are offering 10% off parties of 20 or more on reservations by*  
*December 15th.*

#### El Caballo

891B Island Drive (Harbor Bay Island), Alameda (510) 521-4032  
Family-owned El Caballo Mexican Restaurant has had a long-standing  
reputation for preparing delicious traditional dishes from scratch using  
nothing but the freshest ingredients of the highest quality. El Caballo is  
famous for their Especialidades De Mariscos (seafood specialties) including  
Paela Estilo Catalina, Cioppino Siete Madres, Enchiladas Cabo San Lucas,  
and many others. In addition to delicious seafood entrees, El Caballo offers  
an impressive menu of Mexican favorites to please every palate. The family  
and staff at El Caballo have made it their utmost priority to offer you, their  
guests, a pleasant and relaxing dining experience. You are invited to enjoy  
authentic Mexican dining with a view over beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon.

#### UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

**Café Enrico**  
Italian Restaurant

875 Island Dr., Alameda  
Harbor Bay Landing  
**Early Bird Special**  
**\$10.95**

(Monday-Wednesday 4:00-6:00PM; Thursday & Friday 3:00-6:00PM;  
Saturday & Sunday 3:00-5:00PM)

Entrées include soup or salad, coffee or tea. Choice of dessert: Chocolate  
Mousse Cake, Peach Melba, Rainbow Sherbet, Egg Custard or Ice Cream

Fried Chicken  
Roasted Peppercorn Salmon  
Served with sun-dried tomato sauce

Grilled Tilapia  
Served with lemon-butter sauce

Golden Fried Prawns or Oysters  
Calamari Steak Piccata  
Roasted Veal au Jus

Bay Side Pasta  
Capellini with Bay Shrimp, Baby Clams &  
Scallops in Tomato Basil Cream Sauce

Roasted Leg of Lamb  
Served with garlic sauce

Prime Rib  
Chef's Special of the day  
Sorry, no substitutions please!

Please Call (510) 522-0129 for Reservation

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JAZZ

FROM PAGE C10

...we've been bringing in these from the schools and pre-...them too, similar to how I...to do it at Keystone. I'm just...ing fun. People call it work; I...it getting together a party...day. It's about being a good

...of other East Bay estab-...ments are hosting music, too...n't an exhaustive list of the...offering live jazz, but each...ant, cafe or bar below reg-...present players with at...one foot in the jazz tradi-...keep in mind that schedules...venues change, so it's wise...before venturing out.

Joe's of Lafayette

Where: 2120 Allston Way, Berkeley.  
Contact: 510-841-5299, www.joesoflafayette.com.

**The skinny:** A cozy club that has some of the region's best live jazz seven nights a week, featuring tenor saxophonist Phil Miller and pianist Susan Miller on Mondays, a open mic on Tuesdays and the world-class guitarist Keys with his trio on Wednesdays.

**Upcoming:** Highlights in-...cussionist E.W. Wain-...s African Roots of Jazz...on Friday and body per-...ist Keith Terry's amazing...min' on Saturday.

Left Bank

Where: 60 Crescent Plaza, Pleasant Hill.  
Contact: 925-288-1222, www.leftbank.com.

**The skinny:** The Left Bank's inviting Parisian Jazz Cafe fea-...tures strong local players such...as vocalist Marsha Remas with...saxophonist Jules Broussard on...Fridays and Saturdays, 7-10 p.m...at the bar (or, weather permit-...ing, on the terrace).

Mama Buzz Cafe

Where: 2318 Telegraph Ave., Oakland.  
Contact: 510-465-4073, www.mamabuzzcafe.com.

**The skinny:** A funky neigh-...borhood spot that also serves as...an art gallery, Mama Buzz offers...an idiosyncratic mix of enter-...tainment, from punk-rock ac-...cordion night to jazz combos...and free tarot readings on Mon-...days.

**Orinda House**  
Where: 65 Moraga Way, Orinda.  
Contact: 925-258-4446.

**The skinny:** A relatively new...addition to the East Bay jazz cir-...cuit, Orinda House presents good...local players such as the Stocchi...Jazz Band, which focuses on...swing-era jazz standards.

Palomares Cafe

Where: 3779 E. Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley.  
Contact: 510-733-5852, www.palomarescafe.com.

**The skinny:** With a regular...rotation of acts, Palomares of-...fers dependably creative players...such as drummer Rob Hart's...Trio on Tuesday and veteran...drummer Stan Popper's Trio on...Thursday.

Prevot's Restaurant

Where: 992 Fitzner Road, Antioch.  
Contact: 925-522-8638, www.prevotsrestaurant.com.

**The skinny:** Leaning more...toward pop cabaret than jazz, Pre-...vot's regularly presents vocalist...Kaye Roze and the all-purpose...duo of John Dilao on vocals, gui-...tar and percussion and Zeke Nuez...on vocals, keyboards, guitar and...sax.

Uptown nightclub

Where: 1928 Telegraph Ave., Oakland.  
Contact: 510-451-8100, www.uptownnightclub.com.

**The skinny:** A bona-fide...nightclub with a dance floor and...bandstand, Uptown mixes in top-...shelf local jazz acts with other...musical offerings. Monday nights...feature a blues jam.

Valona

Where: 1323 Pomona St., Crockett.  
Contact: 510-787-2022.

**The skinny:** Tucked away in...sleepy Crockett, this cozy restau-...rant has long featured a trio led...by pianist Terry Henry (who also...plays a mellow cornet and bass),...Sundays from 6-9 p.m.

Yoshi's at Jack London Square

Where: 510 Embarcadero Square, Oakland.  
Contact: 510-238-9200, www.yoshis.com.

**The skinny:** The venerable...Oakland jazz club continues to...draw A-list nationally touring...jazz acts for multi-night stands...but also works in bookings of lo-...cal artists and area high school...and college jazz bands, especial-...ly on Mondays.

**Upcoming:** With shows...seven days a week, check the...nightclub's excellent Web site for...the schedule and write-ups on...artists.

Albatross

FROM PAGE C10

can eat out of a converted...phone booth) and ran into not...two or three but six of his...friends. We grabbed a table in...the back near the dart aisles...and talked optometry (they're...third years at Cal). Everyone...had an Albatross story. Kevin...remembered hanging with a...homeless dude there. His...buddy recalled getting his rear...kicked at chess while tossing...back some stiff ones. Good...times.

Well into the night, the 20...or so tables in the front room...were packed with people...creaming each other over...Black Jack, slamming their...winning hands hard on the...table and cackling over what-...ever tunes might be playing...jazz and bluegrass bands...play on alternating Wednes-...days and Saturdays). Along...the side of the bar, more ta-...bles gamed, with low lamps il-...luminating moody paintings...above that are surely homages...to Gustav Klimt. The jack spot...of all is at a table in the cen-...ter of the bar, behind a flick-...ering fireplace.

It wouldn't be home without...competition, so owner Wendy...Halambeck hosts a dart tour-...nament on Tuesdays and a...trivia quiz on Sundays that...supposedly draws hundreds of...people who would otherwise...be tuning in to "Grey's...Anatomy."

Toward the end of the...night, I saw Halambeck...buzzing around, chatting up...her friends. Er, guests. You...know what I mean. That's...when it felt like a living...room. Andy Tester's mom's...to be exact, sophomore year...in high school. His band, Groove...Tortoise, would play before...we stuffed our faces with...popcorn and busted out



SARA LASNER of San Francisco, left, and Danae Lowe of Petaluma joke around while playing darts.



**MAKE A GAME** of Yahtzee extra-challenging by drinking a house special while playing.

the Monopoly.

Night Writer Jessica Yadegaran profiles bars, clubs and similar

hangouts in the Bay Area. Send comments or suggestions to jyadegaran@cctimes.com.

ALBATROSS PUB

- **WHERE:** 1822 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley.
- **HOURS:** 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Sun-Tues: 4:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Wed-Sat.
- **CONTACT:** 510-THE-BIRD (843-2473), www.albatrosspub.com.
- **PARKING:** Plenty along San Pablo Avenue, in addition to residential side streets.
- **COVER CHARGE:** None.
- **ATMOSPHERE:** Party in the den with all the board games and popcorn you can handle.
- **CROWD:** Graduate students meet artists and Connect Four-obsessed locals.
- **NASTOIDS:** Nada.
- **BARBIES:** Zlich.
- **GIN & TONIC RATING:** 5.
- **MOJITOS?** Who cares? Try the Mule.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BEST SELLERS

Compiled from sales at 45 independent bookstores in Northern California.

Fiction

1. "A Dirty Job," by Christopher Moore. (Morrow, \$24.95).
2. "In the Company of the Courtesan," by Sarah Dunant. (Random House, \$23.95).
3. "Suite Française," by Irene Nemirovsky. (Knopf, \$25).
4. "Tomb of the Golden Bird," by Elizabeth Peters. (Morrow, \$25.95).
5. "Black Swan Green," by David Mitchell. (Random House, \$23.95).
6. "Gone," by Jonathan Kellerman. (Ballantine, \$26.95).
7. "Adverbs," by Daniel Handler. (Ecco, \$23.95).
8. "The Secret Supper," by Javier Sierra. (Atria, \$25.95).
9. "The Templar Legacy," by Steve Berry. (Ballantine, \$24.95).
10. "Two Little Girls in Blue," by Mary Higgins Clark. (Simon & Schuster, \$25.95).

Nonfiction

1. "The Omnivore's Dilemma," by Michael Pollan. (Penguin, \$26.95).
2. "Marley & Me," by John Grogan. (William Morrow, \$21.95).
3. "My Life in France," by Julia Child with Alex Prud'homme. (Knopf, \$25.95).
4. "American Theocracy," by Kevin Phillips. (Viking, \$26.95).
5. "The Great Transformation," by Karen Armstrong. (Knopf, \$30).
6. "Game of Shadows," by Mark Fainaru-Wada and Lance Williams. (Gotham, \$26).
7. "Freakonomics," by Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner. (William Morrow, \$25.95).
8. "The Gospel of Judas," edited by Rodolphe Kasser, Marvin Meyer and Gregor Wurst.
9. "Cobra II," by Michael R. Gordon and Bernard E. Trainor. (Panthron, \$27.95).
10. "The Year of Magical Thinking," by Joan Didion. (Knopf, \$23.95).

Trade paperback fiction

1. "The Mermald Chair," by Sue Monk Kidd. (Penguin, \$14).
2. "Never Let Me Go," by Kazuo Ishiguro. (Vintage, \$14).
3. "Saturday," by Ian McEwan. (Anchor, \$14.95).
4. "Gilead," by Marilynne Robinson. (Picador, \$14).
5. "The Da Vinci Code," by Dan Brown. (Anchor, \$14.95).
6. "The Kite Runner," by Khaled Hosseini. (Riverhead, \$14).
7. "Snow Flower and the Secret Fan," by Lisa See. (Random House, \$13.95).
8. "In the Company of Cheerful Ladies," by Alexander McCall Smith. (Anchor, \$12.95).
9. "Case Histories," by Kate Atkinson. (Back Bay, \$13.95).
10. "The Shadow of the Wind," by Carlos Zafon Ruiz. (Penguin, \$15).

Trade paperback nonfiction

1. "Garlic and Sapphires," by Ruth Reichl. (Penguin, \$15).
2. "In Cold Blood," by Truman Capote. (Vintage, \$14).
3. "Confessions of an Economic Hit Man," by John Perkins. (Plume, \$15).
4. "Plan B," by Anne Lamott. (Riverhead, \$14).

AUDITIONS

- **CC Productions** — "Leaving Limbo," through April 30. Need two female lead actors (ages 45-55) and another female lead (25-35). Musical styles include jazz, pop ballads, country and hot Latin. Rehearsals begin May 15. To schedule audition, send resume and headshot to Shermone Buie Valdes, director, 1251 Cougar Lane, Concord 94521. E-mail jrbsbuvala@hotmail.com.
- **Chanticleers Theatre** — "Forever Plaid," 7 p.m. May 8-9. Eric Neiman, director. Need four men who can sing, late teens to 20s; and four boys, 8-12, for a flashback sequence. 3683 Quail Ave., Castro Valley. Auditions: July 7-Aug. 5. 925-451-5442.
- **Diablo Light Opera Company** — "Thoroughly Modern Millie," 1-6 p.m. May 13 and 6-9 p.m. May 15. Prepare an uptempo, two-minute musical selection and a 32-bar ballad with songs from the '20s and '30s style only. Bring sheet music in own key. Accompanist provided. Dress to dance. Ensemble dance call: Dress in dance attire, bring character and tap shoes. Early warm-up. All auditioning for Millie and Millie's friends must prepare songs and also come to ensemble dance call. Stipend and AEA-eligible; all ethnicities considered. Rehearsals begin Aug. 21. Performances Oct. 6-Nov. 4 in Walnut Creek. 1948 Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill. For character breakdown, visit www.dloc.org. Appointments: 925-844-1565.
- **Frank J. Ballesteros Productions** — "Crooked Pathways: A Fairy Tale," 7 p.m. May 5 and 1 p.m. May 6-7. Need 14 primary characters and several extras. Open to all non-SAG, non-Equity actors. Virginia J. Calisei Studio Theatre, 512 West Second St., Antioch. Performances begin June 22. 925-777-0859.
- **Frank J. Ballesteros Productions** — "Charlotte's Web," 5 p.m. May 15-16. Seeking actors age 7 and older. Virginia J. Calisei Studio Theatre, 512 West Second St., Antioch. Rehearsals: 4-6 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays and 10 a.m.-noon Saturdays in May; and 4-6 p.m. Mondays-Thursday in June and July. Performances: begin July 7. \$150 nonrefundable participation fee if cast. 925-777-0859.

# Aurora

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www.auroraschool.org

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# Lifestyle

in Friday's  
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**BILL MANN**  
Multimedia Notes

## Weatherman's take on rain

**A**S DISGUSTED as many people were getting with the seemingly nonstop rains last month and well into April, I figured one group of people probably enjoying the drenching were local TV forecasters. After all, given the Bay Area's usually predictable weather, local TV weather people are all but invisible seven months of the year during the morning fog/clearing pattern.

The reaction of KTVU's morning weatherman, Steve Paulson, was typical. "It was fun for a while," admitted Paulson, "but after seven straight weeks of rain, it was enough." He said he's glad the record-setting rainy winter appears to be over.

But, don't most TV people cherish their camera time? (Think annoying KPIX weather gal Roberta Gonzales, who, like Madonna, seems to love the camera more than life itself.)

"The extra attention on the newscasts was OK for a while," admits Paulson, who started forecasting locally on Channel 50 in Santa Rosa 20 years ago. "But when you're on 30 times a morning, it's almost overkill."

"On the other hand," he adds, "it has been fascinating from a meteorological point of view, seeing the winter rain pattern extend into March and April."

"But people were starting to get awfully grumpy," he says, "and you get recognized more in public. I was on the tennis court one day recently, and a woman looked at me and said indignantly, 'It's about time!'"

**THE BOTTOM LINE:** First, KRON adopted the cheapo "VJ" idea earlier this year, having reporters ("video journalists") shoot their own footage, thus allowing Channel 4 to trim its payroll by cutting camera people. Some of KRON's VJ reports have been awful.

Another money-savings scheme is about to hit Bay Area TV newsrooms. It's called ParkerVision, and it was installed at Santa Rosa's low-budget Channel 50 several years ago.

ParkerVision is more than a little controversial. My KRON sources confirm it's about to be installed there. I also hear that other local stations, including KTVU and KGO-TV, are seriously considering it.

What is ParkerVision? I've seen it up close.

ParkerVision is basically a glorified Windows program. The camera shots are pre-programmed before the newscast, leaving little room for flexibility. The "director" (actually, a computer operator) sits in the control room clicking a mouse.

With ParkerVision, there are not only no camera operators (robot cameras have been around for years). There are also no floor directors — the people with head-phones (e.g., Biff Henderson) you see scurrying around behind the cameras. Also gone with ParkerVision: Studio technicians. You're running a newscast with almost no humans.

One local news anchor who's worked with ParkerVision told me, "It's pretty lonely in that studio. There's no one to give time cues, no one to tell you your hair needs fixing."

**GOOD...BYE?:** ABC Radio has announced that when superannuated commentator Paul "Good...Day" Harvey retires, he'll be replaced by former U.S. Senator Fred Thompson. Thompson is featured in those ubiquitous Health Net TV ads.

Recently, Thompson was interviewed on KGO Radio by morning co-host/appliance pitchman Ed "Big Screen" Baxter about the new network gig. Thompson said soberly he'd replace Harvey "only when Paul's ready to step down."

Baxter somehow overlooked the one question most listeners wanted to hear. But his co-host, Jennifer Jones, saved the day by asking: Will Thompson continue his regular role on NBC's "Law & Order" as New York's D.A.? "I think we'll be able to work something out," drawled Thompson.

Reach Bill Mann at [Newsmann@sonic.net](mailto:Newsmann@sonic.net).

## East Bay venues offer live jazz

By Andrew Gilbert  
CORRESPONDENT

**T**HE EAST BAY is getting back into the swing of things. In restaurants, bars and cafes around the region, live jazz has increasingly become the soundtrack for dining, enjoying a drink or sipping a latte. And not just in Berkeley and Oakland, though those cities still boast a lion's share of spots that regularly host some of the area's leading jazz cats. From Alameda, Pinole and Richmond to Orinda, Lafayette and Walnut Creek, one needn't look far to find skilled improvisers practicing their craft.

Which isn't to say that the East Bay jazz scene has entered a golden age. For what most gigs pay the players, aluminum would be more apt. But the proliferation of work creates a far more healthy climate for the music than when gigs are scarce, even if better-paying. In most cases the establishments don't charge a cover, which makes it more likely people will check out musicians they're not familiar with. And ultimately, jazz thrives on the bandstand, where players can share ideas and gauge an audience's reactions, even if it means competing with the roar of an espresso machine.

"I do see more and more places offering jazz, and these small venues keep the conversation alive," said Anna de Leon, a fine jazz singer who owns and runs Anna's Jazz Island in downtown Berkeley. "A lot of the work isn't lucrative, and it's not the same as hearing the music in a quiet venue. But it creates a critical mass, a vitality. And it keeps live music in people's lives, which is the whole thing."

Few restaurateurs have done more to make sure that live music is a positive force in people's lives than the aptly named barbecue maestro Bo McSwine, who has turned Bo's Barbecue in Lafayette into a mecca for lovers of savory meats and soulful sounds. Born in Mississippi and raised in Chicago, McSwine says that food and music are practically inseparable. Since arriving in the Bay Area in the mid-1970s, he's always been involved in one or the other, starting with his days producing clinics for kids at the storied San Francisco jazz club Keystone Korner.

"Just about every great musician came through, from Miles Davis and Yusef Lateef to Dexter Gordon and Woody Shaw," McSwine said. "We'd have them come into the club in the afternoon and do a little workshop with the kids, to feed their excitement about the art. We've been doing the same kind of thing here."

Working with tenor saxophonist Matt Morrish, a product of Bob Athayde's acclaimed music program at Stanley Middle School and the Acalanes High School jazz band, McSwine offers a regular rotation of blues, jazz and reggae combos. Holding down the Thursday night spot, Morrish has turned Bo's into one of the East Bay's best jazz hangs, with a steady flow of excellent players (including artists who have just played Yoshi's). McSwine isn't sure whether the music has attracted new people — the spacious restaurant was already luring hungry hordes — but he believes in providing sustenance for the spirit as well as food for the stomach.

"Matt has set up a beautiful Thursday program," McSwine said.

See JAZZ, Page C9



"I DO SEE more and more places offering jazz, and these small venues keep the conversation alive," says Anna de Leon, who owns and runs Anna's Jazz Island in downtown Berkeley. Bo's Barbecue, owned by Bo McSwine, above, mixes savory and soulful sounds. The historic Yoshi's in Jack London Square brings big-name acts such as Diana Krall, below left, while the House is a relatively new addition to the East Bay jazz circuit.



BOB PEPPING/STAFF FILE 2003



## Homey Albatross feels like familiar ne

**S**O, I'M ABOUT to gush. This happens rarely, I know. What can I say? I'm no longer in my easy-to-please 20s, when anything with a pink hue in a pointy glass kept me devoted to a bar.

Then again, I'm not hard to please, either. I'm just over scenes, paper umbrellas and music so loud it dominates my heartbeat. Why go somewhere stiff as nails and watch the pretty people when you can feel like you're the house of someone — that high school friend's with the cool parents — who always throws a killer party?

You get that at the Albatross Pub, the cabinlike Berkeley watering hole that turns 42 this month. And if the whole 40-is-the-new-30 thing applies to

**NIGHT WRITER**  
Jessica Yadegaran

bars, I can honestly say that the Albatross is hotter than ever. Where else can you find 50 bottled beers and play dozens of board games — Trivial Pursuit, Pictionary, even Connect Four — as you slam your next scotch? Did I mention darts? There are six lanes of fun, and a giant ceiling-high Viking toasting your every toss with a chalice and a smile.

I flew solo on Saturday night, saddled on up to the cozy bar — which has hooks underneath to hang your purse, brilliant! — and ordered myself a Moscow Mule, a delicious blend of vodka, ginger beer

and lime juice. I've tried this concoction with rum, and it kills the refreshing tingle of ginger like talk of Mom kills the mood. Always drink it with vodka.

I chatted with the bartender, Jack, the lady to my left (an artist) and the gentleman to my right (a mechanic). Both are Albatross regulars, especially, they said, because they can bring their dogs to the bar before 8 p.m. A horrible accident involving stepping on a pup led to the somewhat recent doggy curfew. Otherwise, the canine love abounds.

Before long, the object of my affection arrived and together we hooked up the popcorn (25 cents gets you all you

See ALBATROSS, Page C9



JEFF GOVIN mixes a drink at Berkeley's Albatross Pub. The bar's perks, such as darts and board games, give it personality.



# Friday Auto Plus

cars.com

ing supplement to The Montclair, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

Friday, April 28, 2006

Section D

## New Hyundai Accent is an improvement over the old

BY TOM KEANE  
MOTOR MATTERS

The new 2006 Hyundai Accent, a compact four-door sedan, has grown in size. It now has a longer wheelbase, a wider track and larger interior.

Changes aren't obvious, as the new Accent is very similar in appearance to the old Accent model, but when parked side by side I was able to make comparisons. The nose of the new model is slightly different. The hood isn't as long and the headlight is larger, wrapping around the front of the car. The trunk lid is smaller and the rear window is slightly more sloped. The new Accent appears to have slightly more storage space compared to the older model. The windshield rake on the 2006 model is steeper and the roof is shorter and has a more active roof-mounted rod antenna. In the passenger's compartment there is more space since the new Accent has a longer wheelbase, wider track and rolls on larger wheels and tires. The additional space provides more legroom for the rear passengers. Also, the shapes of the windows are long and thin. The old Accent was somewhat boxy, the new Accent has a more aerodynamic appearance.

The seats are similar in design and color. I noticed a few changes. For example, the driver's safety belt in the old Accent required lifting the armrest to fasten. In the new Accent there is sufficient space to engage the clasp without moving the armrest. Also, a child seat LATCH anchor in the rear-seat area provides safety for children.

The Accent is an entry-level model, but it comes with a passenger's air bag, power windows, there are numerous subtle changes. For example, the sun visor is illuminated mirror and there is thoughtful storage space. The six-speaker AM/FM/CD audio system is improved, yet the clock is identical to the old Accent. There are a few reasons.

The 2006 Accent now has a clean-running 110-horsepower, 1.6-liter DOHC four-cylinder engine with Continuous Variable Timing for power and



MOTOR MATTERS



THE ACCENT has a large trunk and six airbags, including dual-front airbags, front seat-mounted side-impact airbags and side-curtain airbags covering both rows of seating.



### KEANE ON WHEELS

efficiency. The better breathing CVT has improved performance. The horsepower now peaks at 110 at 6,000 rpm and 106 lbs.-ft. of torque at 4,500 rpm, which I'm told is a 6 percent increase. EPA mileage rating is 28 mpg city and 36 highway. For better gas mileage, a five-speed manual transmission is available, but I enjoyed the four-speed automatic transmission with overdrive on my tester.

The Accent has four-wheel disc brakes and ABS, plus Electronic Brake Force Distribution to help better prevent collisions. But should a crash occur this subcompact car has six airbags, including dual-front airbags, front seat-mounted side-impact airbags and side-curtain airbags covering both rows of seating. I'm told its unibody structure helps absorb crash energy, and hood buckling creases with safety stops

### HYUNDAI ACCENT GLS

Vehicle Type	Five-passenger, four-door subcompact
Suggested Retail	\$13,305
Price As Tested	\$14,870
Engine Type	DOHC 4-cylinder w/CVT
Horsepower	110 @ 6,000 rpm
Torque	106 @ 4,500 rpm
Transmission	Four-speed automatic
Wheelbase	.98 inches
Height	.58 inches
Curb Weight	2,403 pounds
Fuel Capacity	.12 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 28/36

help control the deformation of the hood in a frontal collision. What's even more interesting, is Hyundai claims that no other car in the subcompact segment can equal the Accent's standard safety technologies. The safety features alone may sound

expensive, but that's not the case. This Accent GLS model lists for \$13,305. Add to that a number of power features such as windows, door locks, remote entry and air conditioning, and the total for my tester comes to \$14,870.

Comparing the engine power to the older model Accent, I found the 2006 model has much more pick-up. The ride is comfortable, considering that it's a small vehicle. Yet its size works to its advantage when parking or maneuvering through traffic. Overall, I think this little Accent provides a lot of car for the dollar.

### INSIDE

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


BY VERN PARKER  
MOTOR MATTERS

The price was reduced by \$72 because the heater was deleted.

new battery and, Williams says, "The car ran perfectly."

The restoration began in 1993. "I never had one problem with any



The one anomaly that remains unexplained is the chrome package on the otherwise economical engine. On a car where the customer deleted the heater and declined a radio, why would a chrome package be ordered for the six-cylinder engine? The pack-

age included a chrome cover, chrome oil dipstick fuel line and chrome wheel covers.

Grandma flies up almost every year to visit the family and she loves the Chevelle that her son has now owned two years since she died. "I like to take a drive in the car," William says.

For your car to be the subject of the Classic Car Column, send a photo (front view) plus brief details and a number to Vern Parker, 2200 Botsford Drive, Vienna, Va. Only photos of good quality considered.



**BRIAN WILLIAMS** says his 1964 Chevelle is a "plain Jane, but there is something about that car."

Every time his family would go to Florida to visit his grandmother, Williams says, "I can remember I always told grandma that I wanted this car when she got a new one." She

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
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Pre-Owned	Pre-Owned	Pre-Owned	Pre-Owned	Pre-Owned
1998 MBZ E300 \$15,999	2001 MBZ E300 \$16,999	2001 MBZ E300 \$16,999	2001 MBZ E300 \$16,999	2001 MBZ E300 \$16,999
2000 MBZ E300 \$17,999	2001 MBZ E300 \$17,999	2001 MBZ E300 \$17,999	2001 MBZ E300 \$17,999	2001 MBZ E300 \$17,999
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## WEEKLY SALES

## ALAMEDA

3154 Ball Ln - \$570,000  
117 Bay Pk Tr 23E - \$670,000  
1361 Eastshore Dr - \$799,000  
2047 Encinal Av - \$500,000  
3027 Fernside Bl - \$630,000  
463 Haight Av - \$660,000  
2371 Haile St - \$833,500  
2381 Haile St - \$800,000  
256 Hollister Av - \$236,000  
35 Kilkeny Pl - \$970,000  
3560 McSherry Wy - \$710,000  
1314 Oak St - \$710,000  
13 Rimmel Ct - \$837,500  
2115 San Antonio Av - \$701,000  
3005 Santa Clara Av - \$807,000  
815 Santa Clara Av - \$702,500  
1611 Schiller St - \$635,000  
1825 Shoreline 212 - \$425,000  
950 Shorepoint 201 - \$445,000  
3209 Washington - \$600,000

## ALBANY

419 Evelyn 202 - \$460,000  
1455 Marin - \$300,000  
555 Pierce St 1234 - \$389,000  
604 San Carlos - \$760,000

## BERKELEY

2819 8th St - \$650,000  
2104 Acton St - \$710,000  
2564 Buena Vista - \$930,000  
1937 Capistrano - \$1,285,000  
515 Cragmont - \$1,010,000  
956 Creston Rd - \$1,015,000  
1290 Delaware St - \$633,000  
1217 Evelyn Av - \$777,000  
2409 Hillside Av - \$720,000  
1642 Milvia St - \$480,000  
2816 Oak Knoll Tr - \$2,400,000  
1425 Parker St - \$726,000  
2611 Piedmont 1 - \$485,000  
1520 Sacramento - \$731,000  
909 San Benito - \$715,000  
1510 Stannage - \$628,000

## EL CERRITO

246 Carmel Av - \$782,000  
4104 Acton St - \$610,000  
1230 Contra Costa - \$780,000  
7501 Eureka Av - \$650,000  
941 Everett St - \$640,000  
1713 Walnut St - \$745,000

## EL SOBRANTE

635 Donna Mae - \$539,500  
23 Rachill Ln - \$350,000  
1921 Thompson - \$550,000

## EMERYVILLE

1007 41st St 133 - \$782,000  
1251 66th St - \$545,000  
4 Commodore D237 - \$355,000

## KENSINGTON

257 Amherst Av - \$762,000  
250 Coventry Rd - \$750,000

## OAKLAND

1800 101st Av - \$415,000  
1648 102nd Av - \$460,000  
1433 103rd Av - \$379,000  
2332 11th Av - \$500,000  
1655 12th St - \$570,000  
2627 13th Av - \$620,000  
1902 25th Av - \$480,000  
2530 25th Av - \$450,000  
371 30th St 207 - \$400,000  
371 30th St 402 - \$399,000  
1267 30th St - \$380,000  
836 33rd Av - \$650,000  
906 34th Av - \$475,000  
711 34th St - \$584,000  
714 36th St - \$850,000  
732 36th St - \$605,000  
1640 40th Av - \$339,500  
961 44th St - \$513,000  
1441 4th Av - \$470,000  
840 51st St - \$545,000  
1215 54th Av - \$599,000  
596 55th St - \$349,000  
968 58th St - \$580,000  
820 58th St - \$493,000  
1739 69th Av - \$442,000  
1448 71st Av - \$365,000  
1622 72nd Av - \$410,000  
2616 73rd Av - \$426,000  
1054 74th Av - \$379,000  
1056 83rd Av - \$445,000  
2544 84th Av - \$350,000  
1125 86th Av - \$420,000  
924 86th Av - \$277,500  
1009 89th Av - \$560,000  
1815 90th Av - \$500,000  
1260 91st Av - \$465,000  
1537 92nd Av - \$400,000  
2517 92nd Av - \$525,000  
398 Adams 101 - \$317,000  
398 Adams 306 - \$424,000  
604 Alcatraz Av - \$1,000,000  
866 Athens Av - \$385,000  
1957 Auseon Av - \$425,000  
1967 Auseon Av - \$300,000  
565 Bellevue 2507 - \$1,360,000  
3044 Blossom St - \$580,000  
4505 Bond St - \$415,000  
33 Bowles Pl - \$1,175,000  
4902 Broadway 203 - \$559,500  
3817 Brookdale Av - \$460,000  
320 Caldecott Ln 213 - \$371,000  
519 Capistrano Dr - \$410,500  
343 Channel Wy - \$807,000  
3035 Chapman St 4 - \$669,000  
5941 Colton Bl - \$1,020,000  
2400 Delmer St - \$502,000  
2131 Durant Av - \$650,000  
2327 East 17th St - \$506,000  
1312 East 27th St - \$520,000  
1136 East 33rd St - \$610,000  
6233 Eastlawn St - \$515,000  
4914 Edgemoor Pl - \$500,000  
1600 Excelsior Av - \$700,000  
77 Fairmount 201 - \$300,000  
6480 Fallon Wy - \$685,000  
6428 Foothill Bl - \$312,000  
8529 G St - \$355,000  
3090 Glascock 217 - \$546,000  
1790 Goss St - \$430,000

49 Graeagle - \$668,000  
5937 Grizzly Peak - \$2,575,000  
6669 Heartwood - \$800,000  
1406 Holman Rd - \$200,000  
3877 Howe St 209 - \$280,000  
3332 Jordan Rd - \$825,000  
3741 Keller Av - \$479,000  
231 Kerwin Av - \$450,000  
5740 Kingsley Cr - \$420,000  
3201 Knowland - \$628,000  
3708 Linwood Av - \$684,000  
3885 Lyman Rd - \$715,000  
6630 MacArthur Bl - \$206,000  
5950 Margarido Dr - \$875,000  
2343 Mastlands Dr - \$950,000  
836 Milton St - \$600,000  
337 Modoc Av - \$880,000  
6300 Monadnock - \$399,000  
6322 Monadnock - \$550,000  
616 Montclair Av - \$865,000  
199 Montecito 208 - \$320,000  
3233 Monterey Bl - \$250,000  
3012 Monticello Av - \$550,000  
4437 Mountain View - \$829,000  
2011 Myrtle St - \$590,000  
567 Oakland 307 - \$310,000  
8216 Olive St - \$412,000  
425 Orange St 217 - \$405,000  
9408 Oscar Av - \$442,000  
4501 Pampas Av - \$540,000  
350 Perkins St 108 - \$405,000  
563 Radnor Rd - \$889,000  
2188 Ransom Av - \$465,000  
2895 Regatta Dr - \$773,500  
7971 Sanford St - \$569,000  
202 Santa Rosa Av - \$835,000  
67 Schooner Hill - \$796,000  
701 S. Elmhurst - \$395,000  
7008 Spencer St A - \$615,000  
400 Stoneford Av - \$405,000  
7974 Sunkist Dr - \$599,000  
2421 Telegraph Av - \$426,000  
2421 Telegraph Av - \$380,000  
5476 Wadean Pl - \$434,000  
711 Walker Av 103 - \$500,000  
5709 Walnut St - \$650,000  
7227 Weld St - \$400,000  
3 W.Emb'adero 153 - \$275,500  
17 Whittle Ct - \$680,000  
1025 Willow St - \$480,000

## PIEDMONT

153 Arbor Dr - \$1,155,000  
24 Blair Av - \$1,160,000  
49 Estrella Av - \$1,495,000  
58 Nace Av - \$1,600,000  
1069 Rose Av - \$685,000

## RICHMOND

621 21st St - \$430,000  
1621 24th St - \$375,000  
822 31st St - \$500,000  
631 3rd St - \$480,000  
590 8th St - \$412,000  
4727 Arno - \$525,000  
71 Bayside 318 - \$430,000  
160 Bayside 407 - \$529,000  
118 Bayside - \$392,500  
5237 Burlingame - \$600,000

5001 Camarena - \$686,000  
1400 Chanslor Av - \$497,000  
2750 East Ct - \$395,000  
1910 Esmond Av - \$460,000  
2919 Gilma Dr - \$540,000  
356 Golden Gate - \$860,000  
38 Greenview Ln - \$399,000  
56 Greenview Ln - \$450,000  
3038 Humphrey Av - \$460,000  
2637 Meadow Cr - \$625,000  
2510 Morning Sun - \$792,000  
3422 Morningside - \$520,000  
4428 Overland Av - \$335,000  
1523 Palm Av - \$350,000  
524 Pennsylvania - \$306,500  
1617 San Joaquin - \$600,000  
501 Seaciff Pl - \$866,000  
3973 Selmi - \$677,500  
2743 Sheldon Ct - \$465,000  
351 South 15th St - \$430,000  
433 South 27th St - \$445,000  
245 South 37th St - \$499,000  
232 South 43rd St - \$780,000  
300 S. Marina Wy - \$418,000  
2672 Willard Dr - \$515,000  
232 Willard Av - \$330,000  
510 Willard Av - \$375,000

## SAN LEANDRO

1995 149th Av - \$460,000  
1581 166th Av - \$585,000  
1181 Alder Creek Cr - \$730,000  
13880 Aurora - \$600,000  
1672 Beechwood - \$580,000  
221 Best Av - \$460,000  
14630 Bethany St - \$612,000  
14420 Birch St - \$575,000  
16328 Blanco St - \$500,000  
460 Breed Av - \$700,000  
229 Cherrywood Av - \$515,000  
313 Cherrywood Av - \$620,000  
1044 Collar Dr - \$710,000  
2227 Compass Cv - \$800,000  
1369 Dorothy Av - \$535,000  
615 Durant Av - \$509,000  
1406 Kelly Av - \$505,000  
1116 Mersey Av - \$530,000  
1286 Mersey Av - \$585,000  
3423 Monogram St - \$670,000  
15190 Norton Ln - \$590,000  
1369 Pearson Av - \$335,000  
1472 Plaza Dr - \$500,000  
1667 Purdue St - \$580,000  
15209 Ranger Rd - \$855,000  
1606 Russ Av - \$499,000  
1716 Russ Av - \$570,000  
2549 San Leandro - \$367,000  
14741 Saturn Dr - \$689,000  
14445 Wake Av - \$549,000  
500 Warden Av - \$500,000  
2291 W. Av 133rd 1 - \$585,000

## SAN LORENZO

16059 Channel St - \$550,000  
16349 Elgin Ct - \$500,000  
15943 P. Largarista - \$545,000  
15764 Via Esmond - \$635,000  
16059 Via Harriet - \$635,000

See SALES, Page D6

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2003 HONDA ODYSSEY EX MINIVAN #14388/056782 \$20,888	1996 SUBARU LEGACY L WAGON #14387/937815 \$6,888	2004 HONDA CIVIC EX #14416/042780 \$15,555
2002 HONDA ACCORD EX SEDAN #13072/036390 \$15,555	2003 HONDA CIVIC EX SEDAN #14351/515136 \$13,888	1996 HONDA CIVIC EX #14416/042780 \$15,555

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*03 BMW 325i Sl/Blk 2.7K M/SP/PRM PKG. AUC. TIRE NEW. #15181	\$43,995
*03 BMW 525i Bk/Blk 3.0K M/SP/PRM PKG. MOON. CD. TIRE NEW. #15773	\$26,995
*02 MBZ 5600 Sl/Blk 3.7K M/SP/PRM PKG. TIRE NEW. #15773	\$49,995
*06 MBZ 5430 Bk/Blk 3.5K M/SP/PRM PKG. MOON. CD. TIRE NEW. #15773	\$61,995
*03 BMW M3 CONV. Bk/Blk 2.5K M/SP/PRM PKG. AUC. TIRE NEW. #15773	\$47,995
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*03 BMW 530i Bk/Blk 3.0K M/SP/PRM PKG. AUC. TIRE NEW. #15773	\$34,995
*04 MBZ C155 Bk/Blk 3.0K M/SP/PRM PKG. AUC. TIRE NEW. #15773	\$84,995
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*99 PORSCHE 911 CAB Bk/Blk 3.0K M/SP/PRM PKG. AUC. TIRE NEW. #15773	\$39,995
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*95 BMW 840Ci Bk/Blk 3.0K M/SP/PRM PKG. AUC. TIRE NEW. #15773	\$24,995
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2006 CANYON REG CAB 1 at this price #C0278/170664 NET COST \$12,995	5-Speed \$2,393 OFF MSRP *MSRP \$15,390 Sale Price \$14,995 Factory Rebate \$250 Down Pmt Asst. \$1,089 Trade-in Bonus Cash \$750	2006 SIERRA EXT CAB 1 at this price #C0460/203059 NET COST \$16,395	5-Speed \$5,760 OFF MSRP *MSRP \$22,155 Sale Price \$16,395 Factory Rebate \$1,000 Down Pmt Asst. \$1,000 Trade-in Bonus Cash \$750
2006 G6 SEDAN 1 at this price #C0278/170664 NET COST \$16,999	Automatic \$2,481 OFF MSRP *MSRP \$19,480 Sale Price \$17,499 Trade-in Bonus Cash \$500	2006 LACROSSE 1 at this price #C0180/186222 NET COST \$20,495	Automatic \$3,480 OFF MSRP *MSRP \$23,975 Sale Price \$17,495 Factory Rebate \$1,000 Down Pmt Asst. \$1,000 Trade-in Bonus Cash \$750
2006 TORRENT 1 at this price #C0295/103674 NET COST \$20,495	CD, Pwr. Seat, AC \$4,345 OFF MSRP *MSRP \$24,840 Sale Price \$22,495 Factory Rebate \$1,000 Down Pmt Asst. \$1,000	2006 SIERRA EXT CAB SLE 1 at this price #C0095/103644 NET COST \$20,995	V8, CD \$7,845 OFF MSRP *MSRP \$28,840 Sale Price \$20,995 Factory Rebate \$1,000 Down Pmt Asst. \$1,000 Trade-in Bonus Cash \$750
2006 SIERRA 2500 CREW CAB 1 at this price #C0395/205654 NET COST \$42,745	Diesel, Leather, Moon Roof \$5,075 OFF MSRP *MSRP \$47,820 Sale Price \$44,995 Factory Rebate \$500 Down Pmt Asst. \$1,000 Trade-in Bonus Cash \$750	2006 YUKON XL DENALI 1 at this price #C0130/148623 NET COST \$44,995	Moon Roof, 20" Wheels \$10,281 OFF MSRP *MSRP \$55,276 Sale Price \$44,995 Factory Rebate \$1,000 Down Pmt Asst. \$1,000
2006 SIERRA DENALI CREW CAB 1 at this price PER MO. & TAX ON APPROVED CREDIT \$599*		2007 YUKON 1 at this price PER MO. & TAX ON APPROVED CREDIT \$599*	

\*36-month closed-end lease. \$1,432 cash or trade equity due at lease inception plus drive off that includes \$675 security deposit first payment, tax and license fees. \$0.20 per mile in excess of 12,000 per year. #C0232/231835

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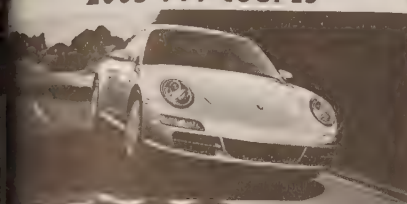


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PORSCHE

## 2005 911 COUPES



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Cadillac

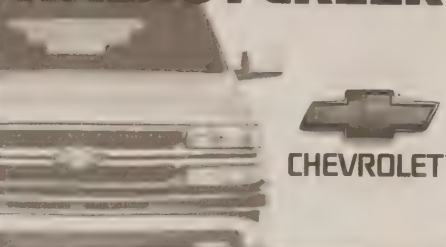
## 2005 CADILLAC STS



**\$10,000 OFF MSRP**

MSRP	\$51,885	#173679.
Dealer Disc.	\$10,000	One available
Sale Price	\$41,885	at this offer.

# MICHAEL STEAD WALNUT CREEK



CHEVROLET

## 2006 COBALT LS COUPE



**\$11,490 NET COST**

MSRP	\$12,990	#842350.
Dealer Disc.	\$500	One available
Sale Price	\$12,490	at this offer.
Mfg. Rebate	\$500	
Trade Assist	\$500	

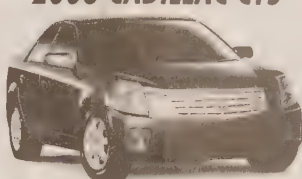
## 2006 CAYENNE TURBO



**\$8000 OFF MSRP**

DEMO #A90767. One available at this offer.

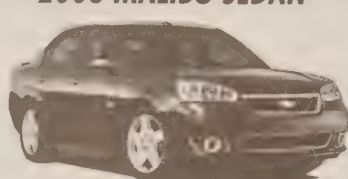
## 2006 CADILLAC CTS



**\$29,995**

MSRP	\$33,890	3.6 Liter V-6 Engine
Dealer Disc.	\$3,895	
Sale Price	\$29,995	#181680. One available at this offer.

## 2006 MALIBU SEDAN



**\$259 PER MONTH + Tax**  
ON APPROVED LENDER CREDIT

39 monthly closed-end lease payments of \$259 plus tax. \$1899 due at lease inception (\$899 customer cash plus \$1000 mfg. rebate) including \$0 refundable security deposit; plus tax and license. Lessee responsible at lease end for mileage over 10K per year at 20 cents per mile. 1 Available at this offer. #137582

## 2006 CAYENNE S



**\$10,000 OFF MSRP**

PORSCHE DEMO CAR  
#A62011 One available at this offer.

## 2006 CADILLAC DTS



**\$399 PER MONTH + Tax**  
ON APPROVED LENDER CREDIT

39 monthly closed-end lease payments of \$399 plus tax. \$5900 due at lease inception including \$0 refundable security deposit; plus tax and license. Lessee responsible at lease end for mileage over 10K per year at 20 cents per mile. 1 Available at this offer. #180094

## 2006 SUBURBAN 4WD



**\$489 PER MONTH + Tax**  
ON APPROVED LENDER CREDIT

39 monthly closed-end lease payments of \$489 plus tax. \$1900 due at lease inception including \$0 refundable security deposit; plus tax and license. Lessee responsible at lease end for mileage over 10K per year at 20 cents per mile. 1 Available at this offer. #108988

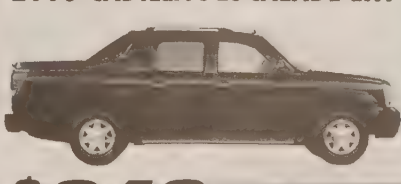
## 2006 BOXSTER S



**\$6000 OFF MSRP**

DEMOS #730913, #730661, #730437.  
Three available at this offer.

## 2006 CADILLAC ESCALADE EXT



**\$648 PER MONTH + Tax**  
ON APPROVED LENDER CREDIT

39 monthly closed-end lease payments of \$648 plus tax. \$7550 due at lease inception (\$4650 customer cash plus \$2900 mfg. rebate) including \$0 refundable security deposit; plus tax and license. Lessee responsible at lease end for mileage over 10K per year at 20 cents per mile. 1 Available at this offer. #100592

## 2006 COLORADO EXT. CAB

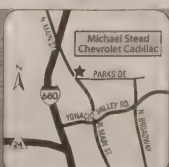


**\$14,240 NET COST**

MSRP	\$17,990	#276356. One available at this offer.
Dealer Disc.	\$1,000	
Sale Price	\$16,990	
Mfg. Rebate	\$1,000	
Trade Assist	\$750	
Down Pay. Assist	\$1,000	

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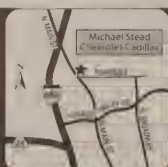


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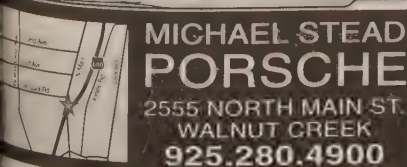
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## Sales

FROM PAGE D4

## By the numbers

## ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 20  
LOWEST PRICE: \$236,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$970,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$ 701,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$ 662,075

## ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 4  
LOWEST PRICE: \$300,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$760,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$ 460,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$ 477,250

## BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 16  
LOWEST PRICE: \$480,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$2,400,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$ 726,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$ 868,438

## EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 6  
LOWEST PRICE: \$610,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$782,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$ 745,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$ 701,167

## EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 119  
LOWEST PRICE: \$200,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$2,575,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$ 493,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$ 550,824

## KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 2  
LOWEST PRICE: \$750,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$762,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$ 756,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$ 756,000

## OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 119  
LOWEST PRICE: \$200,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$2,575,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$ 493,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$ 550,824

## PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 5  
LOWEST PRICE: \$685,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,600,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$ 1,160,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$ 1,219,000

## RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 37  
LOWEST PRICE: \$306,500  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$866,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$ 465,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$ 506,743

## SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 32  
LOWEST PRICE: \$335,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$855,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$ 580,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$ 575,000

## SAN LORENZO

TOTAL SALES: 5  
LOWEST PRICE: \$500,000  
HIGHEST PRICE: \$635,000  
MEDIAN PRICE: \$ 550,000  
AVERAGE PRICE: \$ 573,000

This list is provided by California Resource, a real estate information company that obtains the information from the County Recorder's Office. Neither California Resource nor this newspaper guarantees the completeness or accuracy of the information. All questions should be directed to CalResource@aol.com.

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27-month lease, \$0 security deposit, \$6,121.78 plus tax and license due at lease inception. Lessee responsible for 25¢ per mile over 16,875 total miles. On approval of above average credit.

### 2006 C230

Automatic Transmission, CD Changer, Sunroof Package

**\$229** mo. + tax for 27 months  
3 at this offer #893656, #805354, #895090  
27-month lease, \$0 security deposit, \$4,377.13 plus tax and license due at lease inception. Lessee responsible for 25¢ per mile over 16,875 total miles. On approval of above average credit.

### 2006 SLK280

**\$296** mo. + tax for 27 months  
1 at this offer #099132  
27-month lease, \$0 security deposit, \$5,849.83 plus tax and license due at lease inception. Lessee responsible for 25¢ per mile over 16,875 total miles. On approval of above average credit.

All advertised prices exclude government fees & taxes, any finance charges, any dealer document preparation charge, and any emissions testing charge. All offers expire 5/04/06.

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### 2003 Range Rover

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ID 110432 ..... **\$54,999**

### 2003 Discovery SE 7

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ID 771958 ..... **\$28,999**

Subject to prior sale plus government fees and taxes, any finance charges, any dealer document preparation charge.

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# The Doctor recommends downloading data and diagrams

BY JUNIOR DAMATO

**Dear Doctor:** I had a fire on the dash in my 1993 Volkswagen Cabriolet. I am trying to find the parts that were damaged and I have come across many relays and the boxes they are in. Where can I get information on the color of the wires and where the relays go? — Bob

**Dear Bob:** Subscribe to Alldata. You will be able to download everything you need for a minimum charge. You may want to buy a used fuse box and have the salvage yard leave the wire so you can simply connect them together. I recommend all wires and use heat shrink to insulate the connections.

**Dear Doctor:** I'm working at a repair shop and want to get my certifications. What are the best preparation books available?

## AUTO DOCTOR

able? — Steven

**Dear Steven:** I always rely on and recommend the Thompson Learning Co. training books and manuals. They are located in New York and can be contacted at 518-348-2300 or [www.delmarlearning.com](http://www.delmarlearning.com).

**Dear Doctor:** I own a 1997 Buick Regal 3800 V6 that is supercharged. I purchased the car in 1999 and current mileage is 110,000 miles. I have always used the low octane 87 grade gasoline and have never heard any engine ping or knocking. A friend said that continued use of low octane fuel will cause engine failure or even a fire. I have noticed a burning smell when the temperature is warm outside. Should I use any type of cleaner in the engine? Will the low octane gasoline cause

engine harm? — Patricia

**Dear Patricia:** The use of low octane in an engine designed for high octane if driven aggressively can suffer from catastrophic failure. All fuel-injected engines have an engine knock sensor. The purpose of the knock sensor is to retard the engine timing when spark knock is detected. In some cases the knock sensor will work before you hear the engine ping or knock. As for the burning smell, this would not be low octane fuel-related. For internal engine cleaners, there are many on the market that do not work. I use Techon or products by Wynis. These products are not the ones found in stores for \$2 to \$3. Have the car put up on a lift and look for any oil leaking onto the exhaust.

**Dear Doctor:** I own a 2002 Saturn Vue that loses antifreeze. There are no visible signs of leaks. The dealer put some dye in the cooling system and documented my com-

plaint. The test showed no antifreeze in the oil. The car is now out of warranty. Any suggestions? — Bob

**Dear Bob:** It is not uncommon for some engines to use antifreeze, without seeing any leaks, or antifreeze in the crankcase. Most internal leakage is in the seal between the cylinder head and/or a small crack in the aluminum cylinder head. GM sells small brown pellet cooling system additives also known to stop leaks. Did the dealer check the cooling system for any signs of hydrocarbon? The small amount of coolant loss should not cause you any problem.

**Dear Doctor:** I am leasing a 2004 Infiniti G35 all-wheel drive with a purchase option of \$20,000 at the end of the lease. I enjoy the car and it has been trouble-free. My average mileage is 7,000 to 8,000 a year. The warranty will expire shortly after the lease. What is your opinion about my purchase of the ve-

hicle at the end of the lease in July 2008? — Stan

**Dear Stan:** As long as you like the car and it does not have a lot of mechanical problems and the price is right in July 2008, then buy the car outright. Check online with Kelley Blue Book or NADA. You can also ask the local dealer for both wholesale and retail prices at the time of the possible buyout. Leasing a vehicle is not for everyone and one should talk with an accountant or financial adviser before entering into a lease.

**Dear Doctor:** I own a 2001 Volkswagen Jetta 2.0-liter four-cylinder with 61,000 miles. The "check engine" light came on, so I went to the dealer. He checked the car and said it needed a tune-up at a cost of \$494, and a fuel-injection cleaning for another \$120. He said by driving the car with the "check engine" light on I could damage the engine. I know things are expensive but \$500 for a

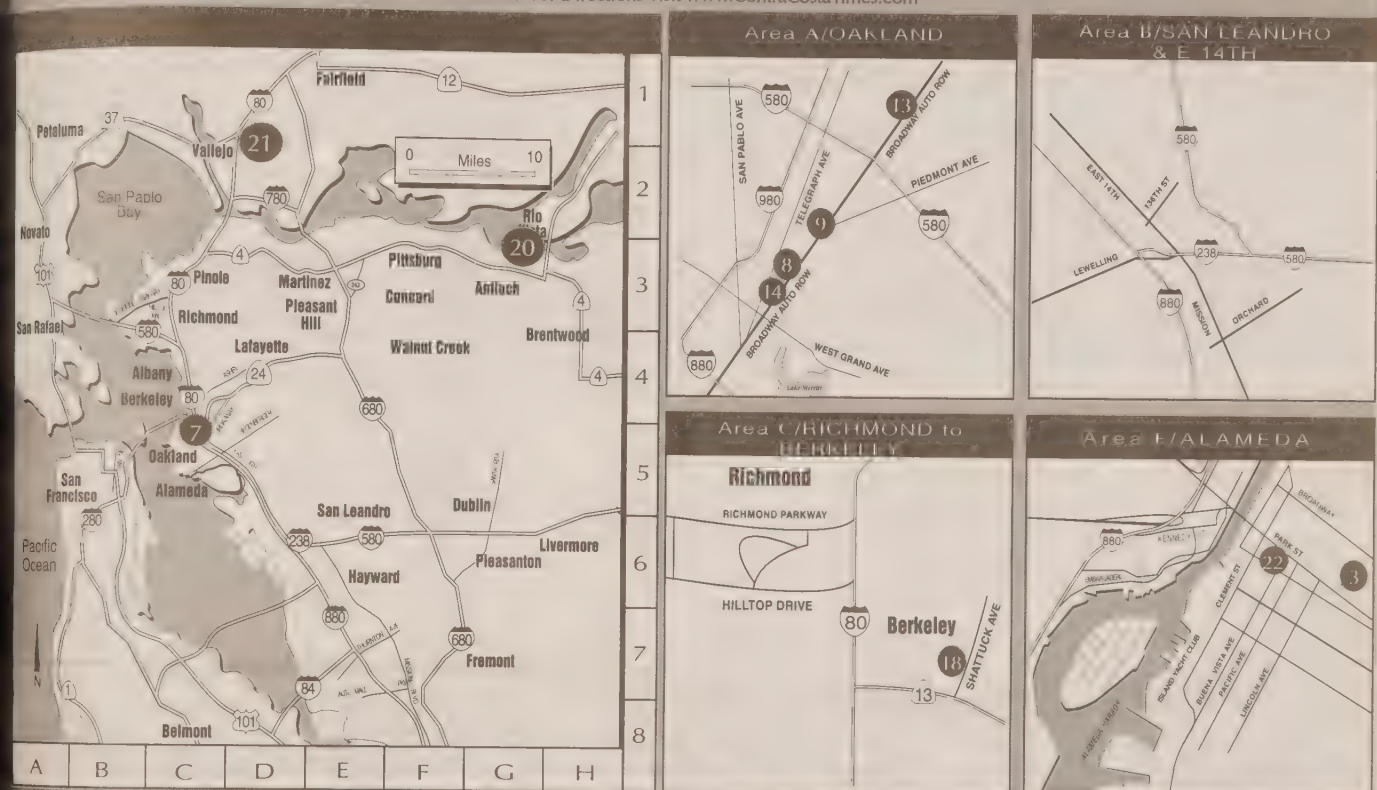
four-cylinder tune-up and \$120 to clean the fuel injectors seems high. Am I missing something? How can I find a good mechanic? — Steve

**Dear Steve:** Prices have gone up over the years on both parts and labor. Your Jetta needs more than just a set of spark plugs. The question is, what was the trouble code when the computer was checked? Common failure items on your Jetta are the ignition coil pack and mass air flow sensor. There is also a small vacuum line that deteriorates by the intake throttle body. As for a mechanic, we are now recognized as technicians. Check with your local AAA office for a list of AAA-approved garages in your area. Ask the dealer for a price breakdown on parts and labor. At 61,000 miles, I would forgo the fuel-injector service and use a good fuel-injector cleaner added to the gas tank four times a year.

Send questions to: Auto Doctor, 3 Court Circle, Lakeville, MA 02347.

cars.com

## Hills Auto Directory

For Door-to-Door Directions visit [www.ContraCostaTimes.com](http://www.ContraCostaTimes.com)


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# Driven to the top: Ford's Stevens most powerful woman in industry

BY SARAH A. WEBSTER  
DETROIT FREE PRESS

DETROIT — On a cloudy, misty day in February, Anne Stevens zipped her statusque frame into a one-piece racing uniform, slipped a helmet over her shock of red hair and slid through the driver's-side window of a new Ford Fusion race car at a track in North Carolina.

Although she was giddy to be there for a private lesson, Stevens, a lifelong racing fan and an engineer, drove cautiously her first time around, getting a feel for the car and track before going full throttle.

The second time out, the 57-year-old Stevens blasted around the 1-mile banked oval at more than 100 mph, driving perilously close to the concrete outer wall. She beamed when she returned to the pits.

"Isn't this great?" she asked, nudging other students in excitement.

Stevens' thoughtful racing strategy gives some insight into how she has claimed a rare title: most powerful woman in the automotive industry.

By carefully assessing her environment, pushing herself to the limit and celebrating her successes, Stevens has risen to an important spot in a male-dominated industry. She is as well positioned as any woman ever has been to assume the top job at an auto company.

The new chief operating officer of Ford Motor Co.'s Americas division, Stevens is now part of Ford's inner circle — a recently created five-person operating committee that reports to chairman and CEO Bill Ford — and one of the chief architects of the turnaround plan that may make or break one of Michigan's top companies.

A feminist who wears bold gold jewelry and fashionable knit suits, Stevens now oversees 153,000 employees, or about half of Ford's workers, and \$85.7 billion in revenues. And she is ranked No. 22 on "Fortune" magazine's list of the 50 most powerful women in business. That's just one slot behind domestic superwoman Martha Stewart.

Although auto executives often adopt politically correct career faces with the public — chirping about how happy they are in their current jobs, even as they plot their next steps — Stevens spoke bluntly about her ambition to be a chief executive officer during a series of interviews with the Free Press.

"I'm not going to sit here and say I want to be CEO of Ford," she

said, emphasizing, "Bill Ford is the right CEO at this point in time."

On the other hand, the tough-talking Stevens, who grew up around Philadelphia and New York City, said she has demonstrated the skill to run her own company.

"I have never failed in any job I've ever had," said Stevens, who has been in her new job since November.

Industry expert David Cole, chairman of the Center for Automotive Research in Ann Arbor, Mich., said he could not recall that a woman ever achieved such a powerful position at any automaker, foreign or domestic.

Stevens' accomplishment is especially exceptional, he said, because she came up through the most macho part of the masculine industry: manufacturing. The stereotypical picture of burly union men and plant managers, he noted, is often fairly accurate.

"This is not a place for weaklings or the faint of heart," Cole said. "It's a rugged part of the business."

Former Ford executive Kathleen Ligoicki, now president and CEO of Tower Automotive, a \$2.8-billion auto parts supplier in Novi, Mich., laughed when asked about the difficulty a woman faces in ascending such ranks in Detroit.

"The auto business is a tough business," said Ligoicki, who became friends with Stevens at Ford. "There's no unscarred tissue on our bodies."

Ligoicki said she admired Stevens for moving into such a crucial position at Ford, noting that she is helping to lead "a major, highly visible turnaround."

Such a post could lead to a much more prominent role, although Ligoicki emphasized that high-level promotions can be hard to predict.

"You just never know," she said. "You never know for the guys either, honestly."

Ford President and Chief Operating Officer James Padilla, who will retire July 1, has promoted Stevens several times during her 16 years at Ford. He said he could easily envision Stevens' running her own enterprise someday.

"This is not a lady who gets overwhelmed," Padilla said. "Anne has demonstrated an ability to take on any challenge that we've thrown at her. I would never put a limitation on Anne Stevens."

Despite her drive, Stevens is not a cold, steely bullet of drive and self-promotion.

Though she has a complex

personality, largely influenced by the 1960s feminist movement, Stevens is bold and demanding yet surprisingly soft and maternal with her family and staff.

On a busy day in February, in between flying to racing school in Rockingham, N.C., and the Daytona 500 in Florida, Stevens, a mother of two and grandmother of four, took a break from her hectic calendar to catch up with her daughter's family for a few hours.

At a restaurant in her North Carolina hotel, Stevens and her husband of 38 years, Bill Stevens, packed around a big circular table with their daughter, Jennifer, son-in-law and two young granddaughters.

In an instant, the family was all ease and laughter, playing with the kids, telling jokes about family traditions and talking a little business. The four adults were all engineers who worked at Ford at some point.

Stevens seemed engrossed in the restorative moment of family time, lovingly stroking the short blond hair of her younger granddaughter, Madison, the kindergarten player a handheld game.

To an outsider, it seemed an enviable picture of a woman who has accomplished one of womankind's most challenging combinations: the powerful job and the happy family.

Stevens, though, will not tell you it has been easy.

Managing a career as a woman, Stevens has told Ford colleagues, is like turning a dial. At some points in your life, you can turn up the heat. Other periods require you to turn it down.

Having children young, beginning at age 20, was somewhat of a blessing for Stevens. She raised them while going to engineering school and through her early career. She didn't start her Ford career until the kids were grown. She was 42.

When she got to Dearborn, Mich., Stevens didn't check her maternal instincts at the door, either.

Stevens has a self-declared "push, push, hug" management style, at times embracing employees for jobs well done.

In today's sensitive workplace, the style seems uncomfortably intimate at first blush. Stevens, though, does not care about that.

"Can you keep pushing without acknowledging that someone is a human being and saying, 'Hey, thank you?'" Stevens asked.

Joseph Hinrichs, who reported to Stevens in 2005 when he was president and CEO of Ford of Canada, admits he has been hugged. And he's OK with it.

"You know, Anne is very comfortable with who she is, and so even in a tough automotive environment, Anne is going to be her own personality, and I respect that," said Hinrichs, who is now vice president of Ford's North America vehicle operations.

"Anne's not really obsessed with what everybody else is thinking," he said. "What's important to her is: How can I help this person the most? And right now, if that person needs a hug, then I'm going to give it to them."

"I was never afraid to be different," Stevens explained.

She seemed to have little choice in the matter.

Although Stevens grew up in a humble Catholic home, like many others that lined the streets in her hometown of Reading, Pa., her upbringing was not so conventional.

For as far back as she can remember Stevens' mother was an invalid, with a mystery illness that doctors struggled to diagnose for years.

Stevens remembers, as a preschooler, watching her mother walk with one foot dragging behind the other. Eventually, her mother needed a walker. One day, she could no longer stand. Stevens was 36 when her mother eventually died, of what was finally identified as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig's disease.

But the illness largely robbed Stevens, an only child, of a female role model.

"I never really knew my mother," Stevens said.

And as a tomboy, Stevens said, she didn't have many girlfriends, either. She recalled spending much of her childhood hanging out with her father at ball games and competing with the neighborhood boys. She excelled at math and science, too, which seemed to distance her from other girls.

"I grew up being very comfortable with men," she said.

This was so pronounced that the nuns at school had a popular refrain for the young Stevens: "Anne Louise, go play with the girls."

When Stevens eventually started dating, none of the boys at her school wanted to go out with the "Brain," her nickname. So she sought out young men from other places, who didn't know how smart she was.

Stevens wanted to become a doctor when she graduated from high school. Back then, however, medically minded young women were largely steered to nursing school.

She was at the top of her class and recalled her excitement the first day she slipped on her white-and-gray student nurse uniform at Philadelphia General Hospital. But Stevens knew during her first shift that it wasn't for her. She quit the next day.

"The job of the nurse was to fill the doctor's orders," Stevens said. "I could see myself telling the doctors that something was a stupid idea."

After she dropped out, Stevens got a job at a phone company, met her husband and had her first child, Jennifer, at 20. A son, Jonathan, soon followed.

Stevens might have remained a homemaker after that — had it not been for the 1983 book "The Feminist Mystique," by Betty Friedan.

The controversial best-seller caused a revolution among women by questioning whether they could achieve fulfillment through childbearing and homemaking alone. The book became a rallying cry for female education, careers and self-actualization.

Stevens felt the call. She joined a chapter of the National Organization for Women and started her own consciousness-raising group, where women would meet, talk, plan and organize for a better future.

It was the first time that Stevens recalls ever connecting with other women.

During one of those sessions, Stevens heard a woman in her 70s talking about her unfulfilled dreams. That woman's regret, Stevens said, "hit me like a brick in the head."

The next day in the shower,

Stevens decided she would go back to school.

She and her husband sold their house for tuition money, and both enrolled at Drexel University in Philadelphia, where they would spend the following years splitting parenting duties, pinching pennies and working their way through engineering school. She did two co-op study programs, one working on F-18 fighter jets with the Navy and the other at Ford Motor Co.

Stevens graduated with a bachelor's degree in mechanical and materials engineering, and she had the grades to go to medical school. But her focus had shifted by then.

"I decided I wanted to be a leader in industry," she said.

So Stevens took a job at Exxon Corp., where she worked for the next decade in the fuel additives business.

Stevens returned to Ford in 1990, as a marketing specialist.

Over the past 16 years, Stevens has continued to move up the career ladder and collaborate with other women in the industry.

"If it hadn't been for women," Stevens said, "I wouldn't have said that I did something."

Ligoicki, the CEO of Tower Automotive, calls that she, Stevens and other women would "give each other support in their careers."

"We would eat pizza and fix the world, the car men," she said. "It was because often in this business, women are accused of helping each other out to say that has, 'fortune' been my experience."

Now, Stevens finds the top of Ford's executive — two spots from Bill Ford — facing the biggest challenge of her career and is crucial to the health of the state's economy.

Stevens jokes that she rather be running the company L'Oreal. But she has an outlet for her stress in her children and shopping. And it's very clear that Stevens smiles and laughs often, exactly what she wants.

"I don't really think any person better equipped now in the company to do this time," she said. "I don't know how many situations I have left in Ford. Be one more. It could be — who knows?"

## Women In charge

Seven noteworthy women work in the auto business, according to the industry trade publication Automotive News. One, Louise Goesser of Ford, was previously reported to be who is now chief operating officer of Ford Motor Co.'s Americas division.

■ Anne Belec, president and CEO, Volvo Cars of North America Inc.

■ Adriane Brown, president and CEO, Honeywell International Systems.

■ Faye Caballero, president and CEO, Black River Energy.

■ Louise Goesser, vice president and CEO, Mexico, Ford Motor Co.

■ Linda Hasenfratz, CEO, Mar Corp.

■ Kathleen Ligoicki, president and CEO, Tower Automotive.

■ Marcy Neth, CEO and owner, Mapco Automotive Group.

# GM's small block V8 engine still going strong

BY HERB SHULDINER  
MOTOR MATTERS

The Generation IV small block V8 for the 2007 Cadillac Escalade is the first GM has used with variable valve timing. Besides VVT, about 50 percent of the engine is new, says Chris Meagher, assistant chief engineer for small block engines.

The Generation IV small block V8 is derived from the Cadillac-developed valve-in-head V8 first used in 1949. At that time it was lighter and more powerful than its predecessor. The engine was so advanced that it established the blueprint for several generations of V8 and V6 engines that followed.

The Generation IV is also a descendant of the revolutionary small-block V8 that debuted in 1955 Chevrolets. At introduction, the engine was revolutionary because of its power output, light weight and compact dimensions. It had a lightweight valve train that allowed it to run at higher rpm.

Contemporary V8 engines were much heavier and more expensive. Chevrolet offered a base engine and optional high performance versions and enthusiasts could buy inexpensive Corvette-related speed equipment right from Chevy dealers. It was 265 cubic inches in

## DOWN THE ROAD

1955. Succeeding versions of the small block were 283, 327 and 350 cubic inches.

The small block just won't die. New Corvette versions generate an incredible 400 horsepower. Modern versions are used not only by Chevy, but in other GM brands. The 2007 Escalade, Chevy Suburban and GMC Denali XL also use the small block V8 engine with VVT. But the Chevy and GMC models only generate 380 hp compared to the 403 horsepower produced by the Escalade engine.

For 2007, Meagher says, GM includes features in the small block such as a larger bore for the new displacement, a new high-flow cylinder head and a dual-equal cam phaser — the industry's first on a mass-produced V8 with VVT.

The cam phaser adjusts camshaft timing at the same rate for the intake and exhaust valves. VVT controls camshaft timing to optimize low-rpm torque and high-rpm horsepower. It also improves combustion efficiency. Cylinder block design has also been revised.

Generation IV small blocks are

engineered for higher miles per gallon and lower emissions as much as for more horsepower and torque. New cast iron exhaust manifolds combined with dual close-coupled catalytic converters contribute to lower cold-start emissions. Overall, the new engine is 90 percent cleaner burning than truck engines were 10 years ago.

The new aluminum block is virtually identical to iron versions of this engine family. It has a deep skirt design with cross-bolted main bearing caps and a structural oil pan. Its crankcase vents help improve bay-to-bay breathing. This reduces pumping losses, helping to create the high hp output of the engine.

The lightweight block reduces mass and helps to improve weight distribution. Meagher says use of aluminum in the engine reduces weight by 45 kg (99 lbs.). "Aluminum is significantly more expensive," Meagher says. "But it probably gives two-tenths more miles per gallon." The EPA rating for the Escalade is 14 miles per gallon city and 19 mpg highway.

"The 6.2-liter displacement is about as big as we can go with cast in place (cylinder) liners," Meagher says. The 7.0-liter Corvette small block has pressed

in place liners. "That's OK for low volume engines, but it's not for high volume production," he says. The engine's larger bore required larger pistons, he says.

The new Escalade engine is just as big as the small block family is going to get, Meagher predicts. If

Cadillac desires to market an Escalade V, it would be more feasible to supercharge the engine than to increase displacement. But there are no immediate plans to do this.

Meagher says that with the exception of the limited production 6.1 Hemi in Chrysler trucks, there's no truck engine with higher power. "We're the class leaders in high volume trucks," he says.

GM was unable to include GM's innovative automatic fuel manage-

ment system in the Cadillac because engineers were unable to adapt it for the seven-speed automatic transmission used in the Escalade. However, Meagher says, the AFM will be used in other GM models. It could increase mileage by about 6 percent at least one mpg to the 19 mpg fuel economy.

Premium fuel is recommended for use with the Generation IV engine, but is not necessary.



THE 2007 CADILLAC ESCALADE ESV uses the small block V8 engine with VVT.

# With 'telematics,' the futuristic is now

BY WARREN BROWN  
THE WASHINGTON POST

NEW YORK — It is an ugly car. There can be no argument about that. From the front, the Scion FUSE Sports Coupe Concept looks like a motorized helmet. Its gaping lower grille and the slit-nosed air intake atop its hood, combined with a wraparound windshield, give it the appearance of a prop in a bad science-fiction movie.

Yet none of that matters. As is the case with other cars and trucks on display at the New York International Auto Show, which ended Sunday, it's what's inside the FUSE that counts.

And "inside" nowadays means much more than what is in the engine bay.

We're talking "telematics."

The term refers to the safety and informational communications devices automobile manufacturers and their suppliers are loading into their

new cars and trucks. It takes in the growing panoply of entertainment items — MP3 and iPod players, high-definition DVD screens and electronic game portals.

Over the past decade, the global automotive industry has run hot and cold on telematics. There were early predictions that consumers would snap up every electronic gizmo the industry could develop for motor vehicles. When that did not happen, the initial enthusiasm for telematics was replaced by the idea that consumers saw no real value in vehicle-based electronics and thus, few would ever buy them.

But speculation has been supplanted by research, the latest being a survey of U.S. consumer attitudes toward telematics conducted by Accenture and released in conjunction with the opening of the New York show.

Accenture, a global management consulting and technology services

company, conducted an online/telephone survey in February of 500 U.S. consumers. Survey participants were between 21 and 70 years old. All owned or leased a car.

Automobile manufacturers such as Toyota Motor Corp., maker of Scion cars, are studying Accenture's results. Also paying attention are the many China-based suppliers developing, manufacturing and selling automotive electronics products.

China's influence on the direction of automotive electronics is growing so strong so rapidly that several Western car manufacturers, such as General Motors Corp., are relocating their electronics component procurement operations to Shanghai and Beijing.

According to Accenture's study, that is a good move. Eight of the 10 U.S. car owners surveyed said they wanted some form of in-vehicle technology in their new cars, es-

pecially if that technology enhanced their safety and security. In order of importance, 69 percent of the respondents ranked safety and security first, with most of those people preferring devices that would help police track stolen cars and assist drivers who have locked their keys inside their cars.

That is good news for groups such as GM's OnStar emergency communications division, which can, among other things, unlock cars and trucks via satellite communications. "Growing consumer demand for in-vehicle technologies promises significant market potential for manufacturers," said Richard Spitzer, global managing partner of Accenture's automotive practice.

Nearly 75 percent of the respondents said they are not likely to add electronics devices to their current vehicles, as opposed to 80 percent who said they would seek such devices in a new model.

## Licenses plate

THE NEW YORK TIMES

On April 25, 1993, New York became the first state to require license plates for vehicles. In the 105 years since then, motorists have had to change the letters and numbers on their plates (plates) for more than 100 times.

Examples of 2FA5T4 (for you), 1CU4FA (laughin'), QT-PI (laughin'), UUUD444 (use the...)

Please recycle



# The 2007 Toyota Tundra to be more rugged than current version

BY MICHELLE KREBS  
MOTOR MATTERS

CHICAGO — Toyota lobbied a lot at the Big Three when it introduced its first full-size pickup truck, the Tundra, in 1999. At the Chicago Auto Show, Toyota aimed a guided missile at the 2007 Tundra.

This is the biggest, boldest truck in history," said Jim Miller, Toyota's president and chief operating officer in the U.S. "A big truck, a truck, as in Miller, a truck of public relations, described those as uncharacteristic fight-words from usually polite and friendly Toyota executives.

The small and underpowered Tundra was the big boys from Chevy and Dodge, the first to fail to make a dent in sales. Ford's F-150 continued to top as the best-selling vehicle in America for 29 years while the Chevy Silverado was close behind.

The 2007 Tundra could prove a different story, though in no way guaranteed. Indeed, the Tundra, which goes on sale this time next year, is big-matching entries from the Big Two spot-on, and bolder in appearance with a heavily chrome-plated grille, thicker body and taller

The new Tundra is also more rugged than the current one, targeting what Toyota calls "true" users. These tough guys are union leaders among full-truck owners who "use, pun-demand the most out of trucks they buy," said Jim Miller, Toyota's group vice president and general manager.

Other than displaying the Tundra's regular stand at the Chicago Auto Show, Toyota took a ballroom at McCormick

## SHE'S FREEWHEELING

Place to create the Tundra Territory experience, an imitation logging camp and ranch to demonstrate the Tundra's ruggedness.

The new Tundra also is more powerful, though Toyota isn't saying how much more powerful. Toyota boasted that the Tundra will set new benchmarks in the truck category for power, but refused to give all-important horsepower and torque figures. Toyota would only confirm that it would offer a new 5.7-liter V8 engine in the Tundra, as well as the current 4.0-liter V6 and a 4.7-liter V8. One number that Toyota did reveal — the Tundra's 10,000-plus-pound towing capacity — impressed journalists attending the press conference. That number does set a new benchmark.

The Tundra will come in three cab configurations. In all, it will be offered in more than 30 different models, nearly double the current one. Toyota claims the Tundra's cabin roominess is best in class. While Toyota execs didn't publicly discuss it, even more versions are planned for the Tundra line, including a hybrid and heavy-duty and diesel models.

Toyota's Jim Press called the introduction of the Tundra "one of the most important products in our history because it has the potential to make a major positive impact on our business."

Press boasted it was "the best-ever truck," adding "70 years of truck-making and seven years of customer research have helped us craft the perfect full-size pickup for Americans. The new Tundra has everything true truck buyers seek — looks, size, power and capabil-

ity along with time-tested Toyota quality, reliability and durability."

Toyota also will have the capacity to build more Tundras than it has in the past. A new plant in Texas is under construction, which will bring Tundra production to 200,000 a year.

While the Tundra certainly will be successful, it isn't guaranteed to damage Big Three truck sales. Truck buyers tend to be extremely brand loyal and patriotic. Building the Tundra in Texas, the biggest truck market in America, however, was a stroke of genius by Toyota — a truck built by Texans gives it an American flavor.

Ford appears the most vulnerable to the Tundra since it is in the top spot and its plans to keep the F-150 fresh are secret. Ford is struggling financially and its future product plans are unclear.

General Motors began rolling out its new full-size sport utilities with the trucks to follow about the same time as the Tundra. One reason Toyota is mum on power figures is there's still time for GM to eke out more power and torque to steal Toyota's bragging rights as best in class.

Dodge isn't standing still, as it constantly brings out new Ram-based models and moves into the heavy-duty market. Likewise, Nissan, which recently established a commercial sales division, reportedly is working on a heavy-duty version of the Titan.

"Toyota is always a force to be reckoned with no matter what the product is," said Tom LaSorda, Chrysler Group President and CEO. What is likely is that this round of the truck wars could get bloody.

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# Kawasaki's Z750S delivers Ninja-like performance

BY ARV VOSS  
MOTOR MATTERS

Perhaps you've grown tired of riding an all-out sportbike on solo sojourns and would like to explore a ride that's more comfortable. A bike that allows for practical two-up travel without making any sacrifices in the performance department, and without moving onto a full dress cruising bike.

Kawasaki introduced its Z750S to the U.S. last year, bringing to dealers a middle-weight, modest-sized "naked" bike that combined sportbike performance attributes while providing a design that was comfortable enough for taking a companion on extended tours. The Z750S was launched in the European marketplace and then refined for the American rider.

Power for the Z750S comes from a 748cc, inline four-cylinder that's mounted transversely in the light-weight diamond frame, which is constructed from large diameter, thin-wall tubing for both strength and rigidity. The motor is electronically fuel-injected and liquid-cooled, featuring a bore and stroke of 68.4mm x 50.9mm with double overhead cams, 16 valves and a four-into-one exhaust system that contributes to the bike's mid-range power.

A racing-inspired, oval-shaped muffler that includes a metal honeycomb catalyzer that aids in reducing emissions tones down the exhaust noise. The 55 pounds-foot of torque is delivered to the rear wheel via a six-speed sequential manual transmission and 520 X-ring drive chain. Cooling the motor is ac-

## Z-WHEELING TODAY

complished by utilizing the same large radiator and ring fan found on the Z1000.

The Z750S rides on 17-inch high performance radial rubber, mounted on six-spoke alloy wheels for greater strength over last year's three-spoke versions. The suspension consists of performance-tuned 41mm hydraulic forks up front with 4.7 inches of travel, and a rear swing arm aft with a cast aluminum Uni-Trak linkage and shock with seven-way preload spring adjustments and four-way rebound damping adjustment with 5.0 inches of travel. Dual forward 300mm discs featuring four-piston calipers and a 220mm rear disc handle braking chores.

In the case of the Z750S, being "naked" doesn't mean going without dress-up features and amenities. The bike sports a lean, racy looking half-cowl that aids in its aerodynamics, while the quartz halogen headlamps add a jewel-like effect and effectively brighten the dark of night.

The instrument panel contains a radial tachometer, digital speedometer, odometer with tripmeter, fuel gauge and clock, all with a glowing red backlight. The LED tail lamp and turn signals are shared units with the Ninja ZX-6RR sportbikes. The galvanized 4.8-gallon steel fuel tank is molded to accommodate an aggressive, though more comfortable, upright riding position. The integrated passenger or tandem seat

provides sleek grab bars, with an optional seat cover available.

## Summary

My test Z750S came with a base price of \$7,099, while dealer prep and delivery elevated the final total to roughly \$7,500. My bike was finished in a bright blue metallic finish, which has been replaced for 2006 by a more sinister and aggressive-looking metallic Spark Black.

As a dyed-in-the-wool cruiser type, I generally do not favor sport or naked style bikes, but the features and riding position of Kawasaki's Z750S are enough to give one reason for reconsideration. The half-cowl with integrated flyscreen and side-mounted mirrors and the raised handlebar position allow for a transitional compromise between cruising and sportbikes. The rider's foot pegs are aft, but not so far as to necessitate assuming a pretzel pose.

Acceleration is phenomenal over a broad range with a quick and positive response to throttle roll-on. Braking is equally impressive, and the overall handling characteristics render an incredibly nimble quality, thanks to the bike's suspension set-up and relatively light 430 pound dry weight. I didn't test the Z750S in a two-up scenario, but it is so well balanced riding solo that adding a passenger should be hardly noticeable. Overall, the Z750S offers a comfortable zone between full sport and full cruisers, without breaking the bank. Think of it as a NinjaSport Tourer.



THE Z750S OFFERS a comfortable zone between full sport and full cruisers, without breaking the bank.

# The 2007 Toyota FJ Cruiser is a true sport utility vehicle

BY DAN LYONS  
MOTOR MATTERS

a fact: More and more so-called "sport utility vehicles" are less and less capable off-road. From a marketing perspective, sense. We know that the SUV is far more likely to be launched an expedition to the man on a mountain trail. But the latest entry (and newest looks that trend. Available in March, the FJ Cruiser marks Toyota's entry into the enthusiast's segment, with the most capable 4x4 in the company's lineup. Looking at the FJ, it's obvious that it was designed with utility in mind. The body has overhangs front and back and ground clearance between 6.6 inches. Angles of approach/breakover/departure are 34/27/30 degrees, respectively, and the FJ will ford water to 27.5 inches deep. Standard plates protect engine, case and fuel tank from encounters with hard surfaces. Turn the FJ off the trail and it responds enthusiastically, even with the standard

Toyota expects that 94 percent of will opt for a 4x4 version, and 4x2 is also available. Standard transmission 4x4's have a full-speed transfer case with a Torsen limited-slip differ-

## GET OFF THE ROAD

ential. It splits the power 40-percent front/60-percent rear, changing those percentages as needed to enhance traction. Four-by-four's with the automatic transmission are equipped with a part-time transfer case, with high and low ranges.

Upgrade Package One gives trail enthusiasts different tools to gain traction in different conditions. Drivers can lock both rear tires up in tandem to power out of a tough spot, or use the traction control system to maintain steering control when churning through those situations where the driver can't generate much momentum. All told, the FJ is stable and highly capable, even on highly technical trails.

Though it obviously enjoys getting its tires dirty, FJ acquires itself well on the road. The FJ is fun to drive and handles better than its shape would suggest. Ride quality gets a thumbs up, and the only noticeable noise underway is the road hum generated by the big tires. Toyota offers one engine, a 4.0-liter V6, making 239 horsepower and 278 pounds-foot of torque. It's a stout motor, with plenty of low-end power to tug you through the muck and ample top-end to roll down the highway. Strong enough to tow up to 5,000 pounds, it's got a healthy appetite, too. The

EPA rates the 4x4 FJ at 17 miles per gallon city and 21 highway (automatic), 16/19 (manual), and premium gasoline is recommended for best performance.

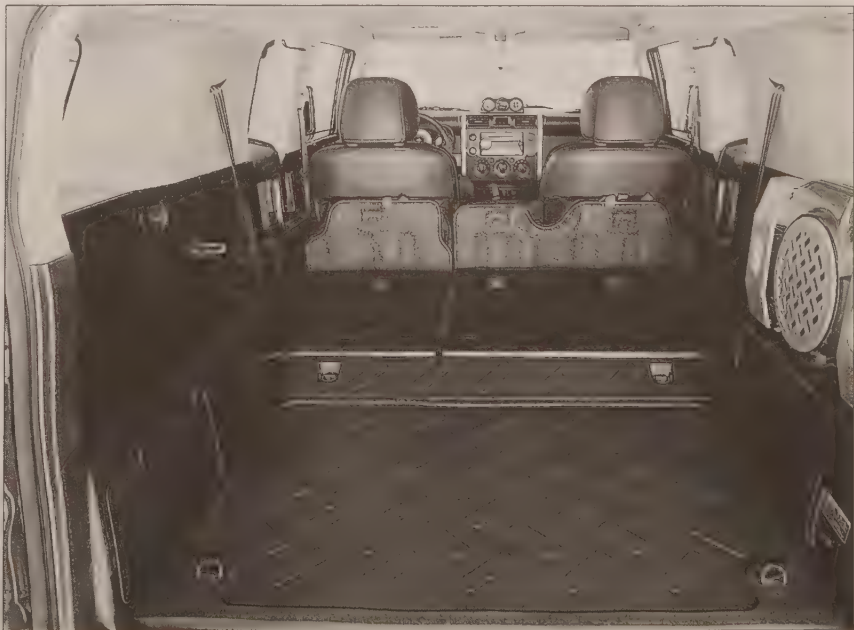
Buyers choose from a five-speed automatic or a six-speed manual transmission on the 4x4 models (it's automatic only on the 4x2). I've driven both and can recommend either. The stick has a long shifter throw, but it allows maximum engine control. The automatic works well with the motor's broad power band, and it gives you one less thing to worry about when you're trying to pick your way through a tight trail.

The FJ's interior keeps up with the program by offering a high level of versatility. The seat fabric is water-resistant and breathable. The floor is made of a rubber-like material that's easy to clean. There's adult-sized room in front or back, and everything from door handles to climate control rheostats is oversized — easy to grab, even with a gloved hand.

The rear-mounted spare tire takes a small bite out of the straight back view. Wide C-pillars likewise block a portion of the over-the-shoulder outlook. The rear cargo area is accessed by a side-hinged door, with locking prop-rod. It's a roomy, usable cargo hold, with 27.9 to 66.8 cubic feet of space on hand, depending on how many rear seats you fold.



MOTOR MATTERS



MOTOR MATTERS

THE REAR CARGO AREA of the FJ Cruiser is a roomy, usable cargo hold, with 27.9 to 66.8 cubic feet of space on hand, depending on how many rear seats you fold.



# A DWI and devastated

BY WARREN BROWN  
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — I got a phone call from a longtime family friend — a decent, upright wife and mother who had never done anything to break the law, or hurt anyone in her half-century of life — until she left a Fairfax County, Va., party after January's Super Bowl game.

She needed to talk.

In our friend's own words, "I was drunk, and I was driving. I was stupid, so stupid. ... I'm so humiliated, devastated by all of this. ... After everything I've done good in my life, everything and everyone I've loved, I'll be left with this. ..."

Her blood-alcohol content was "above 0.15," at least twice Virginia's and the nation's legally drunk limit of 0.08 percent. It was her first offense. She hired a good lawyer but was found guilty and sentenced to five days behind bars under Virginia's drunk-driving laws, revised in 2004 to stand among the toughest, the most unforgiving in America.

Our family friend was not seeking forgiveness. "I was wrong. I deserved what happened to me. I could have killed

someone, killed myself," she said. And she was right about that.

A total of 279 people died in Virginia in traffic crashes in 2004 involving motorists with blood-alcohol levels "of 0.08 percent or higher," according to the latest available numbers published by the Fatality Analysis Reporting System of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. That was two deaths fewer in Virginia than in 2003.

Virginia law enforcement and traffic safety officials are extremely unhappy with those numbers, as are their peers in Maryland, where 209 people died in legally-drunk-and-above crashes in 2004, up 12 percent from 187 in 2003. (Hint: If you are caught drinking and driving in Maryland, don't expect any sympathy from police or anyone else in the law enforcement and judicial systems.) Nationally, the numbers were just as grim — 12,879 people dying in drunk-driving crashes in 2004, down a scant 2 percent from the 13,096 people who perished in unfortunate meetings with drunken motorists in 2003.

Luckily, our friend did not kill anyone or damage anything except her self-esteem

and self-respect. But that was tragic enough. She sank into a nearly debilitating depression, straining her marital and other family relationships. She said she felt, still feels, imprisoned by her one-time failure, "like everyone is watching me, like I deserve to be watched, not to be trusted," she said.

"People, you know, some of those people who I met in ASAP (Virginia's mandatory Alcohol Safety Action Program for convicted drunk-driving offenders, who must pay an additional \$450 in penalties to attend) ... they tell me that I 'just' served five days in jail. 'Just' five days in jail," she said.

Do you know how many ways you can lose your dignity, your entire sense of who and what you are in a five-day jail term? She recounted the ways.

"It's the absolute shock of it," she said. "It's the idea that you're now regarded as a criminal like any other criminal, no matter how you've lived or what you've achieved before. Did you know that the Commonwealth of Virginia assigns the same number of points to a driving record for a first-time misdemeanor DUI/DWI as they do for vehicular manslaughter?"

I did not know that. Nor did I know that women in detention in the Fairfax County penal system "are only allowed white or gray undergarments," as this woman told

me. But I did know that, if you are arrested for drunk driving in the Old Dominion, under the 2004 laws, your driver's license is automatically suspended for seven days without any conviction or court appearance.

There were other scarring humiliations. "When you make a phone call from the (Fairfax County) Adult Correctional Center, it automatically prefaces your voice to the (call's) recipient, stating: 'This call is from the Fairfax County Adult Correctional Center' from your wife, or whatever," she said.

"I went in thinking that (jail officials) would see that I'm a good person, a good citizen who made one stupid mistake, that I was truly sorry," our friend said. "... I wasn't looking for a favor. I just wanted someone to talk to me decently, to treat me like a human being. But they spoke to me, treated me like trash. To them, I was trash."

There was one guard, a man, "who seemed to speak to me like maybe I was a person," she added. Her memory is covered with the reasonable doubt.

"It was on the day I was being released," she recalled. "I told him that I was sorry. I thought he believed me. I wanted him to believe me. I was sorry. I am sorry. But he smiled at me and asked: 'Hey, you aren't one of those skulls, are you?'"

She sank into what she called a "deep despair."

"Skell," believed to be a corruption of a 17th-century British slang word, "skelder," which referred to village gars, often now is used in U.S. prisons to refer to the lowest of the repeat offenders.

Other penalties and humiliations stemming from our family friend's conviction and conviction for intoxicated driving included:

- Legal and related penalties: costs of nearly \$11,000.
- A severely restricted driver's license for six months from the date of conviction, requiring the installation of an electronically controlled onboard alcoholizer in her automobile, which she breathes into to allow the device to determine her sobriety and allow her not unlock — the car's ignition.
- Astronomically higher car insurance costs.

- Guaranteed tough political scrutiny of any future treatment, especially any involving supervised alcohol and/or drug-influenced driving.
- And something she has never before — a criminal record.

She said she needed to talk to someone else from this hell, maybe to save a life.

# Illuminating road hazards that lurk beyond lights

BY IAN AUSTEN  
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Driving at night, a stressful experience for many people, is also more dangerous than daytime motoring. According to the Department of Transportation, slightly more than 20 percent of all fatal accidents in the United States in 2004 occurred between midnight and 6 a.m., a period that accounts for only about 2.4 percent of daily traffic volume.

Today's technology cannot do much about two of the factors that add to the perils of night driving: more drunken drivers on the road and drowsiness that often sets in when the sun goes down. But a new generation of devices that improve a driver's ability to see in the dark, originally developed for military use and now a staple of action films and evening news reports, may offer a better chance of spotting dangers hidden beyond the reach of the headlights beams.

Cadillac introduced night-vision technology for civilian vehicles in its 2000-model DeVille, but the feature did not catch on with customers and was discontinued after five years. Lexus, which offers a \$2,200 night-vision option on its LX470 sport utility, has found rel-

atively few buyers for the system in the United States; Honda offers the technology on its Legend in Japan but not on the similar Acura RL sold here.

That sales resistance has not deterred BMW and Mercedes-Benz from introducing night-vision systems for their flagship sedans. BMW began offering one as an option on the 7 Series in Europe this fall, and Mercedes will make the technology available as an option when its redesigned S-Class sedan goes on sale here in February.

All night-vision systems form their images by detecting light in the infrared part of the spectrum — the electromagnetic energy radiated when any object is heated — which is invisible to human eyes. Even so, not all infrared is the same.

BMW, like Cadillac and the military, chose to develop a passive night vision system. Despite its name, passive is the more complex and costly technology because it relies on specialized cameras that can intensify the infrared images they receive.

Lexus and Mercedes, however, favor active night vision. Cars using this design are equipped with two extra halogen headlights that have the intensity and aim of a

high beam but which are filtered to emit only infrared rays. A fairly conventional digital camera, adjusted to see only infrared wavelengths, captures the light reflected from objects ahead.

Much as advocates of Microsoft Windows square off against users of Apple Macintosh operating systems, each side is adamant that it has the best answer.

"We looked at all the other systems, which were basically passive systems," Jorge Breuer, senior manager for active safety systems at Mercedes, said. "We decided that the image quality from the passive systems is much worse than active systems."

Frank Schloeder, a BMW spokesman in Munich, has a different view. "For use in cars to detect animals and people, the best system is far infrared," he said, using another term for passive designs. "People can recognize pedestrians much quicker and it gives about double the distance."

Siemens VDO Automotive, an electronics supplier, has developed both types of systems. Bert Wolfram, vice president for automotive information systems, said that after three years of research it found neither system was con-

clusively better.

"We have both," said Wolfram, who is based in Auburn Hills, Mich. "But we don't see a clear thread about which way this is going to go."

Images from active systems, which in the Mercedes are displayed on an eight-inch liquid crystal panel behind the steering wheel, look much like ordinary black-and-white television pictures. Breuer compares the effect to having a set of high-beam headlights that can be left on continuously without blinding oncoming drivers.

The problem with passive systems, and their appeal, is that the images are unlike anything in the natural world. Warm objects — pedestrians, exhaust systems, a moose — glow brightly while the road surface and anything else that is cool fades into blackness. And since infrared radiation extends beyond the physical dimensions of a warm object, a fuzzy halo surrounds people and anything else at an elevated temperature.

Edward J. Zellner, who worked with Raytheon to develop night vision in his role as chief vehicle engineer for the Cadillac DTS, acknowledged that viewing the images of a passive system takes

a bit of adjustment, but has its rewards. "It really does highlight warm-blooded things," he said.

BMW reached much the same conclusion. "If you jump in a car with near I.R., you would say, 'That's a great picture,'" Schloeder said of the competition's approach. "But it's not good to have a good picture in the car. It's more important to reduce the image to the most relevant detail."

Because they use conventional digital camera sensors ("charge coupled devices," in photo parlance), Lexus and Mercedes are able to mount them within the car's interior, just ahead of the rear-view mirror. That gives a viewpoint close to that of a driver.

A passive camera can be overwhelmed, though, by heat generated by a car's engine or defroster, or even body heat from passengers, so such devices must be mounted outside and up front. BMW, which has not announced a release date for its system in the United States, placed its camera below the bumper. While the camera has a hardened lens that should protect it from debris, even Autoliv, the Swedish safety systems company that developed the system, acknowledges its potential vulnerability.

The camera technology, of course, is just part of a night-vision system.

"The technology itself isn't the

biggest deal," Zellner said. "The biggest deal is making use and intuitive."

Only Lexus has copied Cadillac's approach of using a display to project the night-vision image onto the windshield and engineering controls. Every windshield design played a role at BMW, which plays its image on the specially used for the navigation system and the iDrive system controls many vehicle functions.

Mercedes dropped to a projected image after other motorists who drove prototypes, instead choosing to display come up on the screen ahead of the driver. The panel of the new S-Class also has an LCD screen, which displays the speedometer and night vision system is used.

Whatever their technology, most agree that night vision is a useful technology, and that it is most useful on two-lane highways.

"If I were a road engineer, I probably see it as an advantage," said Bob Upton, a traffic engineering manager for Volvo, part of Toyota's design system. "But in the real world where I drive there are kids playing ball late at night."

Allan added: "Night vision is a first step. But there's more to do with cameras in the car just look down the road."

# Bold colors are back as a way to show individuality

BY DAN SHINE  
DETROIT FREE PRESS

DETROIT — For Elisha Jakubowski of Rochester, Mich., buying a new car has as much to do with Martha Stewart as Jackie Stewart.

Sure, Jakubowski looks at engine size, performance, styling and gas mileage when picking a new car. But if it's not offered in a color she likes, she is moving on to a new model.

"I'm a woman. Of course, color's important," Jakubowski said while checking out the new cars and colors at the 2006 North American International Auto Show.

Those who track trends in the auto industry agree, noting a recent survey that reported that 34 percent of car buyers will opt for another model if they can't get their first choice in a color they like.

Color designers say that, after a period in the 1990s dominated by conservative, neutral colors, car buyers are celebrating the new millennium by expressing themselves and their individualism by buying cars with bolder colors.

Christopher Webb, exterior coloring trend designer from General Motors Corp.'s North American op-

erations, said it is not much of a surprise. With the popularity of home decorating and designer television shows, people are painting their home interiors in more daring colors. Therefore, it is not much of a leap, style- and comfort-wise, for someone to go from a blue-walled home to a blue-colored car.

Car colors "follow lifestyle trends," said Webb, who also is a member of the Color Marketing Group, a global color organization that forecasts color directions and trends.

"The average consumer is more design-savvy," he said. "People want something unique."

But it wasn't always that way. Henry Ford was credited with saying that customers could have his Model T in any color they wanted as long as it was black. Over the years more colors were introduced into car lineups.

Webb said the 1980s conspicuous-consumption era featured bolder-colored cars in bright reds and yellows. The 1990s were more conservative, dominated by neutrals such as black and white. In fact, the 1997 list of the most popular car colors includes light brown, dark green, white, black, silver,

medium and dark red and dark blue.

"Now we're back to a period of expressing individualism," he said.

"Blue is returning as the biggest, most important color," Webb said. "Red is important. Blue is important. You put them together and you get purple. There's a purplish-red Rolls-Royce at the auto show. There's a dark purple on the Chevy Equinox."

Sandy Mathia, color design specialist for BASF's Automotive OEM Coatings Solutions, said tinted grays are a way "to subtly introduce new colors."

She also said that "saturated pastels — like a soft blue but not a baby blue" will be popular in the next few years. These lush pastels evoke peace and tranquility, Mathia said.

"Silvers will be taking on more color and also popular will be dark colors that are almost black," she said. "It will be colors you look twice at. It might be dark blue or dark red. I call them 'head turners.'"

Webb calls this trend "emerging hue" or "shifting pigment."

"It's almost like a prism," he said. "The color moves as you move around the car."

Bolder, more daring colors, of course, look more at home on certain models compared to others. For instance, it makes sense that a fun, retro car such as the Chevy HHR would come in a color called "sunburst orange." Don't look for that color to be offered on the Cadillac DTS.

"The design of a car lends itself to certain colors," Mathia said. "Sports vehicles have design characteristics that amplify certain colors."

But Webb said bold colors on some luxury brands can work. He said Cadillac offered the Escalade EXT in a bright blue for a short time and it was the top-selling color.

He said this trend toward offering a certain color on a model for a limited time also is emerging. Chevrolet, Webb said, once offered only 99 vehicles in "anniversary red." He said automakers in the future will offer colors for a short run on vehicles.

"People want something that others don't have or can't have," he said.

But Jakubowski, who was perusing a "cypress green" Saturn Vue Green Line hybrid SUV, isn't one of those people. She tends to

stick with the safer colors, such as her current black.

"I learned early on that you never buy a car that's not resellable," she said.

Eying the green Saturn Vue, she said: "It's pretty, but I wouldn't buy it. Not everybody would like it." Brian Stephens of Detroit is of a different opinion.

"As long as it's not purple, you'll get the same price for it," he said as he looked over some GMC pickup trucks.

But his friend Charlie Paige of Ypsilanti, Mich., likes to play it safe. "Silver is my color preference," she said. "I like the classic colors when it comes to cars. Rich blacks and reds and silvers — those traditional colors."

Talitha Harris of Warren, Mich., would like a new car just so she can get rid of her gold one. Her husband, Jason, admits she didn't want the car because of the color when he bought it a few years back.

"I like color," Talitha Harris said. "Iridescent colors like a spicy red that make people notice."

Jason Harris said he liked the orange on the Dodge Challenger and the "ice blue" on an Aston Martin. He didn't care for a cranberry-

colored Saturn nearby.

Nick Martinez and Mike Bazzi of Dearborn, Mich., told the Generation 7 model Scion display. Both said they liked the bolder colors.

"You want your car to stand out," Martinez said.

"I want people to notice my car," he said. "Hey, there goes Nick."

Bazzi said your car should reflect your personality.

"People who know me are an outgoing, fun guy," he said. "I wouldn't make sense to have a car that is in a few words. That's not me. The color has to have sparkle and life, just like me."

Top colors for 2006 include white, gray, blue, black, brown, green and yellow.

Emerging color trends include mixing with tints of cool green or warm, light blue for effects. Grays infused with red, blue or green, chrome color, medium and dark blues, reds will cross with orange and white.

Source: The 2006 Dodge Color Popularity

# 2006 BMW X5 is the premium utility vehicle

BY CONNIE KEANE  
MOTOR MATTERS

The BMW X5 offers the glamour of luxury styling, the functionality of a sport utility vehicle and the practicality of a sedan.

Visually, the X5 holds all the attributes of the conventional Sport Utility Vehicle segment, but six years ago BMW redefined the segment with the X5 Sport "Activity" Vehicle. The X5 is a unibody structure with exceptional rigidity and a towing capacity of 6,000 pounds. Today many automakers call these models, which are not built with true truck ladder-frame construction, Crossover Utility Vehicles. These unibody models are the desired design of most sport utility buyers.

Under the sleek skin of the X5 is iDrive, BMW's all-wheel drive system. Although iDrive is an AWD system it primarily makes the X5 operate in rear-wheel drive, holding true to its German-engineered heritage for high performance and tight handling.

## KEANE ON WHEELS

iDrive transfers traction to the front wheels when slippage is detected.

BMW offers three trim levels for its 2006 sport activity vehicle: X5 3.0i, X5 4.4i and X5 4.8is. Each is distinguished by performance output.

My tester was the base model, the X5 3.0i with a starting price of \$42,500. This model is powered by a 24-valve dual overhead cam 3.0-liter inline six-cylinder engine mated to a six-speed manual transmission. It generates 225 horsepower at 5,900 rpm and 214 pounds-foot of torque at 3,500 rpm. The test vehicle had the optional \$1,275 Steptronic automatic transmission and delivered fuel economy ratings of 16 miles per gallon city and 21 mpg highway.

The X5 4.4i has a 32-valve DOHC 4.4-liter V8 engine mated to a six-speed automatic transmission. It produces 315 horse-

power and 324 pounds-foot of torque. The base price of this mid-level BMW is \$54,295.

The top-of-the-line X5 is the \$71,795 X5 4.8is. For drivers who demand premium performance, the 4.8is is equipped with BMW's most advanced power. The 32-valve 4.8-liter V8 powerplant delivers a powerful torque rating of 369 pounds-foot at 3,500 rpm and a horsepower rating of 355 at 6,200 rpm. This hefty 5,018-pound model can move its girth from a standstill to 60 mph in just 5.9 seconds. It comes standard equipped with 20-inch wheels and performance tires.

The tester had so many optional features, it was nearly bumped up to the next trim level. The as-tested price was \$53,970. Among the options were the \$2,500 Sport and the \$3,400 Premium packages. I liked the features included in the Sport package for the way they added an athletic, sporty quality to the X5. These features included 18-inch

wheels, a sport suspension, black chrome exhaust, sport steering wheel and sport seats.

The Premium package raised the luxury level to new heights. The package is steeply priced at \$3,400, but could be considered well worth the outlay of extra dough. Its most attractive element is the dual-panel panoramic moonroof, which opens over both the front and second row passengers, allowing in plenty of air and light when desired. The adjustable rear seatback feature gives rear occupants an opportunity to enjoy long trips in a reclined easy-chair fashion. Leather upholstery and BMW Assist (telematics) are also included in the Premium package.

The X5 includes a full range of safety equipment, such as a Head Protection System, front airbags and side-impact airbags (optional for rear seat). The X5 has earned the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety "Best Pick" award in the 40 mph offset frontal crash tests.



THE BMW X5 OFFERS the glamour of luxury styling, the functionality of a sport utility vehicle and the practicality of a sedan.



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### San Francisco

**DUBLIN** 300/28A townhouse @ The Cottages. Perfect condition. Many upgrades. Open Sat. 1-4. \$544,900. 925-984-3651

**DUBLIN** OPEN 1-4 4146 Clairborne Cir. 2bd/2ba, split, liv. 1420sf, 2 car attached gar. Built 2005, never lived in. \$549,900. Call 925-984-3651

### Investment Property

**FREE LIST** gov't Repos. fr \$2K on, all areas, 8kr 925-998-7210, 24 hrs.

**IN LA. GROWTH PART** 2/2, 3 BR's, new development. 925-925-5993

**LIVERMORE** 7 units, 2 & 3 BR's, new development. 925-925-5993

### Coastal & Vacation Property

**HAWAII TIME SHARE** Red in RCI, 2BD, \$3500 3 wk use. 925-465-1463

**Alameda**  
**480/28A** Fam./liv./din. rm. 1810 Clinton, 4000 sq. ft., 112000. Call 925-984-0133

### Alamo

**WESTSIDE** Alamo 2bd, 2 1/2 baths, 1120 sq. ft. 719-366-6300

**Antioch**  
**380/28A**, 2 car, very nice, incl. \$459,999. Call 925-408-3927

### Benicia

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### Discovery Bay

**DISCOVERY** Bay 4bd, 2 1/2 baths, 2100 sq. ft., 510-326-7451

**DISCOVERY** Bay Open Sun. 1-4. 510-326-7451

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Monte Vista @ Morgan Hill	Morgan Hill	(866) 812-9244	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/montevisitamorganhill">www.apartments.com/montevisitamorganhill</a>	816 - 1460	X			X X
Highland Garden Apts	Mountain View	(888) 664-3386	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/highlandgardenmountain">www.apartments.com/highlandgardenmountain</a>	925 - 1575	X			X X
Saratoga Downs	Napa	(866) 791-6090	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/saratogadowns">www.apartments.com/saratogadowns</a>	1200 - 1695	X			X X

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Montrachet	Napa	(866) 226-4047	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/montrachetnapa">www.apartments.com/montrachetnapa</a>	1200 - 1895	X			X
Hawthorn Village	Napa	(877) 252-0480	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/hawthornvillage">www.apartments.com/hawthornvillage</a>	1350 - 1955	X			X
Bridge Bay	Newark	(866) 342-0898	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/bridge-bay">www.apartments.com/bridge-bay</a>	825 - 1050				X
Kensington Apartments	Oakland	(866) 361-2888	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/kensingtonapartments">www.apartments.com/kensingtonapartments</a>	725 - 1225				X
The Landing @ Jack London Sq	Oakland	(866) 891-6698	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/thelandingatjacklond">www.apartments.com/thelandingatjacklond</a>	1330 - 2395				X
17 Mile Drive Village	Pacific Grove	(866) 288-0115		<a href="http://www.apartments.com/17miledrivevillage">www.apartments.com/17miledrivevillage</a>	1850 - 1995	X			X
Park Central	Petaluma	(866) 567-4424	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/parkcentralca">www.apartments.com/parkcentralca</a>	1220 - 1610				X
The Villas @ Harbor Pointe	Pinole	(866) 202-3729	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/VillasatHarborPointe">www.apartments.com/VillasatHarborPointe</a>	965 - 1315				X
President's Park Apts	Pittsburg	(866) 835-2847	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/presidentpark">www.apartments.com/presidentpark</a>	850 - 1125				X
Cornerstone Apartments	Pittsburg	(866) 226-8184	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/igcornerstone">www.apartments.com/igcornerstone</a>	950 - 1250	X			X
Lincoln Green Apartments	Pleasant Hill	(866) 420-5886	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/lincolngreenca">www.apartments.com/lincolngreenca</a>	800 - 1775				X
Diablo Oaks	Pleasant Hill	(866) 237-9275		<a href="http://www.apartments.com/diablooaks">www.apartments.com/diablooaks</a>	750 - 1195	X			X
Camelback North Apts	Pleasant Hill	(800) 310-5365	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/camelbacknorth">www.apartments.com/camelbacknorth</a>	950 - 1550				X
Stoneridge	Pleasanton	(888) 225-5352	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/stoneridge">www.apartments.com/stoneridge</a>	1015 - 1676				X
Reserve at Capital Center	Rancho Cordova	(866) 289-8219	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/reserveatcapitalcenter">www.apartments.com/reserveatcapitalcenter</a>	745 - 1110	X			X
The Redwoods @ Master Sokien	Rancho Cordova	(866) 206-3277	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/redwoods">www.apartments.com/redwoods</a>	695 - 835	X			X
The Vintage @ South Meadows	Reno	(888) 577-8498		<a href="http://www.apartments.com/vintageatsouthmeadows">www.apartments.com/vintageatsouthmeadows</a>	845 - 1340	X			X
L.V. Towers	Riverdale	(866) 289-7575	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/lvtowers">www.apartments.com/lvtowers</a>	765 - 1140	X			X
Park Ridge Apartments	Rohnert Park	(866) 471-0926	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/parkridgerohrnertpark">www.apartments.com/parkridgerohrnertpark</a>	900 - 1300	X			X
Redwood Creek Apts	Rohnert Park	(888) 672-4971	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/redwoodcreek">www.apartments.com/redwoodcreek</a>	1300 - 1750	X			X
Deer Valley	Roseville	(866) 289-9150	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/deervalleyapartments">www.apartments.com/deervalleyapartments</a>	975 - 295	X			X
Gold Ridge Apt Homes	Sacramento	(866) 324-9418	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/goldridgeca">www.apartments.com/goldridgeca</a>	765 - 905				X
Oak Pointe	Sacramento	(866) 875-1768	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/oak-pointe">www.apartments.com/oak-pointe</a>	715 - 815				X
Fairlake Apartments	Sacramento	(866) 664-7423	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/fairlake">www.apartments.com/fairlake</a>	710 - 1300				X
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Evergreen Ridge Apts	San Bruno	(888) 675-3872	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/evergreenridge">www.apartments.com/evergreenridge</a>	1025 - 1650				X
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Cedar Grove Apartments	San Leandro	(866) 578-5473	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/cedargrove">www.apartments.com/cedargrove</a>	825 - 850				X
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Bel Air	San Ramon	(866) 240-5557	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/belairsanramon">www.apartments.com/belairsanramon</a>	1125 - 1808	X			X
The Seasons	San Ramon	(866) 355-6168	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/the-seasons">www.apartments.com/the-seasons</a>	1067 - 1365	X			X
Swan Lake	Santa Cruz	(866) 290-4923		<a href="http://www.apartments.com/swanlake">www.apartments.com/swanlake</a>	1200 - 1350				X
Spring Lake Apartments	Santa Rosa	(866) 290-4154		<a href="http://www.apartments.com/springlakesantanrosa">www.apartments.com/springlakesantanrosa</a>	975 - 1475	X			X
Elliott Pointe	Seattle	(866) 722-3305		<a href="http://www.apartments.com/elliottpointewa">www.apartments.com/elliottpointewa</a>	850 - 1500				X
Shadow Ridge Apt Homes	Simi Valley	(866) 288-2305	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/shadowridgeapartments">www.apartments.com/shadowridgeapartments</a>	1245 - 2025				X
The Villa Outlook @ Wood Ranch	Simi Valley	(866) 471-0940	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/villaoutlookwoodranch">www.apartments.com/villaoutlookwoodranch</a>	1335 - 1695	X			X
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Sycamore Village	Tracy	(866) 247-3048	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/dhycamervillage">www.apartments.com/dhycamervillage</a>	910 - 1380	X			X
Mission Sierra Apt Homes	Union City	(866) 356-7219	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/mission-sierra">www.apartments.com/mission-sierra</a>	967 - 1337				X
Sommerset Apartments	Vacaville	(800) 296-9619	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/sommerset">www.apartments.com/sommerset</a>	880 - 1050				X
Hidden Creeks	Vacaville	(866) 430-8747	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/hidden-creek">www.apartments.com/hidden-creek</a>	895 - 1210	X			X
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Alamo Palms Apartments	Vacaville	(888) 440-8682		<a href="http://www.apartments.com/alamopalms">www.apartments.com/alamopalms</a>	895 - 895				X
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Holiday Gardens Apt	Valejo	(800) 509-2303	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/holidaygardens">www.apartments.com/holidaygardens</a>	685 - 945				X
Franciscan Apt Homes	Valejo	(866) 222-9538		<a href="http://www.apartments.com/franciscanapts">www.apartments.com/franciscanapts</a>	675 - 950	X			X
Sundance Apt @ Yaldeo Ranch	Valejo	(888) 492-2600	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/sundancedvallejoranch">www.apartments.com/sundancedvallejoranch</a>	900 - 1200	X			X
Austin Creek Apartments	Valejo	(866) 461-5923	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/austincreekca">www.apartments.com/austincreekca</a>	925 - 1150	X			X
Seabreeze	Valejo	(866) 409-7934	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/seabreezeca">www.apartments.com/seabreezeca</a>	825 - 1125	X			X
Spyglass at Glen Cove	Valejo	(866) 212-4197		<a href="http://www.apartments.com/spyglasscondos">www.apartments.com/spyglasscondos</a>	1050 - 1450	X			X
Fountain Plaza Hills	Valejo	(866) 275-9991	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/fountainplazaspyglass">www.apartments.com/fountainplazaspyglass</a>	790 - 1165	X			X
Four Seasons	Walnut Creek	(866) 349-1592	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/fourseasons">www.apartments.com/fourseasons</a>	915 - 1505	X			X
Creekside Glen Apt	Walnut Creek	(888) 291-3921	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/creeksideglen">www.apartments.com/creeksideglen</a>	975 - 1275	X			X
Carmel House Apt Homes	Walnut Creek	(888) 307-0650	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/carmelhouse">www.apartments.com/carmelhouse</a>	925 - 1125	X			X
Diablo Pines	Walnut Creek	(866) 241-0575	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/diablo pines">www.apartments.com/diablo pines</a>	1055 - 1530				X
Kingston Place	Walnut Creek	(866) 468-9561	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/kingstonplace">www.apartments.com/kingstonplace</a>	1000 - 1050	X			X
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Flora Apartments	Walnut Creek	(866) 290-3458	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/flora">www.apartments.com/flora</a>	1025 - 1650				X
Trinity House Apartments	Walnut Creek	(800) 290-3479	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/trinityhouseapts">www.apartments.com/trinityhouseapts</a>	1095 - 1495				X
San Marco Apartments	Walnut Creek	(800) 538-6068	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/sanmarcoapt">www.apartments.com/sanmarcoapt</a>	995 - 1300				X
Castlewood Apartments	Walnut Creek	(866) 269-0700	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/castlewoodapartments">www.apartments.com/castlewoodapartments</a>	925-1575				X
Diablo Villa Apartments	Walnut Creek	(866) 839-4829	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/diablovilla">www.apartments.com/diablovilla</a>	895 - 1025				X
The Keys	Walnut Creek	(866) 210-6514	X	<a href="http://www.apartments.com/thekeys">www.apartments.com/thekeys</a>	900 - 1500				X
Creekside Apartments	Winters	(866) 299-4091		<a href="http://www.apartments.com/creekside-apt">www.apartments.com/creekside-apt</a>	885 - 900				X



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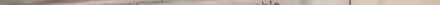
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## Announcements

Business notices, personal messages, lost & found.

## Announcements

**ATTENTION C.O.V. CAR RALLIERS.** Find the skater's slick hanging out at the Central Park ramps. But, be prepared! It may be a surprise.

## Business Notices

**DIVORCE** Sale - New Couch, with chair, new dresser and side table, dining table with chairs \$2000. Call 530-244-4555. Will be in San Ramon Saturday, 4/29 to sell items before move. 530-244-4555

**ESTATE** Sale 2761 Alcala St. Antioch, CA 94509. 8-PM/9:00, cabinets, misc.

**ESTATE** Sale 2761 Alcala St. Antioch, CA 94509. 8-PM/9:00, cabinets, misc.

## Found

**CHIHUAHUA** Found. Set Rd Brentwood. Ring 925-240-9885

**RABBIT** SUN TERRACE AREA, CONCORD, CA. 925-686-5393

## Lost

**BLACK** Cat w/brooked. Al. Lynwood Dr. Mulberry Ct Concord. 925-765-4821

**CAR KEYS** @ Raley's parking lot near Loma Antioch. 925-753-5855

**CATS** (6), Franklin Canyon Rd. Martinez, March. 925-497-5638

**COCKATIEL** wht. faced. Pied Rock Ridge/Montclair. 510-547-7420

**COLLEGE** RING, Univ. of Stone Mexico, red stone 925-487-1555

**DIAMOND** Bracelet. 4/29/06 in P.R. Reward \$400. 925-648-7554; 925-200-0826

**DOG**, 4 yr. blk. & wht. Toy, Lulu w/only left eye, starbuck's in Brentwood. Reward. If found 925-634-5122

**DOG** Tan Shep. Mix, 11 yr. male. "Ogle" aka. 510-530-4865

**DUFFLE** /Purse, blk. in grocer bag. Area 23rd & Bridge. 510-768-7260

**LOST CHIHUAHUA** Oakley area brown female. Please call 925-726-7260

**LOST GREYHOUND** Bailey, brindle, collared 415 Shadow Lakes, Brentwood. REWARD 925-298-2014

**LOST** \$550 \$55 male (N) de la cava. Black eye. Oakland (925)754-7660

**LOST** small reddish, short-haired female dog. Montclair. 925-333-3296

**PIT BULL** wht./tan, tan/brown, black eye. FOUND FOUND FOUND. \$ REWARD \$200.00. ALLWHITE PARAKEET 925-565-1063

## Personals

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**AFFORDABLE Extended** hrs. M-F, 7:30-7:00. Drop in 925-235-2346. 925-640-6881. Affordale, T.C. 925-676-2743

## East Contra Costa Licensed Child Care

**ANTIOCH** ages 0-5, 2 openings. 925-704-0615. 925-706-8488

## Tri-Valley Licensed Child Care

**BANVILLE DAYCARE** #073405317. Affordale, T.C. 925-676-3459

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## TOOT-A-LOU DAYCARE

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Pets, horses, livestock, supplies, adopt & rescue.

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## BICHON Pups, Lovable

no shed, health. 707-452-8600

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2 yrs. old, 2 yrs. 2 mos. \$250 925-754-4533

## BORDER Collie pups

purebred, Blk/wht. \$250-290 186-339-2695

## BOSTON TERRIER MIX

2 males, 5 weeks old. \$150 ea. 925-681-2432

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Dog Born 4/6, ready to go. Excel. temper. www.teamrandazzo.com or 925-413-1304

## GERMAN Shepherd

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## GOLDEN Ret. AKC

OFA Pups Health guar. \$450 925-349-5004

## KITTENS rescued, Leuk

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## LABRADOR, chd. 5

yr. \$100 obd. 707-953-1982

## LABRADOR, Chocolate

AKC, shots, dew. pa- 707-333-6501

## LABRADOR Retriever

low, 12 mos. 625-922-2518

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The Clorox Company Career Open House



**Career detailing. Put a shine on your career  
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**Tuesday, May 2, 2006  
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
Corporate Headquarters  
2221 Broadway  
Oakland, Calif. 94612**

**Thursday, May 4, 2006  
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.  
Clorox Technical Center  
7200 Johnson Drive  
Pleasanton, Calif. 94588**

**Senior Leadership  
Panel Discussion  
"Connecting Insight  
to Innovation"  
5:00 p.m.**

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No matter if you're tossing a salad, starting the grill or even waxing your car, chances are Clorox products were there along the way. After all, our employees work together to help create and enhance products that make people's lives easier, healthier and better.

### Join Us for Our Open House

Be sure to visit our Open House, Tuesday, May 2nd and Thursday, May 4th. On both evenings, you'll enjoy a Senior Leadership Panel Discussion, "Connecting Insight to Innovation." You'll also meet recruiters and hiring managers from each of our business units — and learn first hand how unique skills and backgrounds blend seamlessly into every key Clorox decision.

We'll further share the many career opportunities available in our corporate headquarters in Oakland, Calif.; our technical center in Pleasanton, Calif.; as well as our Product Supply Organization locations across the country. So circle the dates, and prepare to make your mark across the following business units:

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Marketing  
Product Supply Organization  
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# Lifestyle

Publication of Hills Newspapers/East Bay Daily News

Advertising Supplement

Friday, April 28, 2006



Photos by Dennis Evanovsky

PHOTOS CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

**TOP LEFT:** AN N-SCALE DIESEL is set to disappear into one of the layout's many tunnels. **TOP RIGHT:** ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS of the museum's HO scale layout is the Oakland Mole. **CENTER:** An O-scale diesel makes its way through the Western United States. **BOTTOM LEFT:** MUSEUM SECRETARY John Edginton towers over Oakland's 16th Street station as he make some adjustments on the HO-scale tracks. **BOTTOM LEFT:** AN OIL REFINERY forms part of the museum's realistic layout. **BELOW LEFT:** SOME TOOLS OF THE TRADE: A pair of scissors, wood and some plans show the thought behind the layouts. **BELOW RIGHT:** A LOOK AT THE MUSEUM'S 10,000 square feet of layouts, which include N-scale, O-scale and HO-scale trains.

## All aboard for the Golden State Model Railroad Museum

East Bay Model  
Engineers Society runs  
model rails at Point  
Richmond

BY PAUL J. SOITO  
GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM  
Golden State Model Railroad Museum invites you to step  
into 10,000 square feet of O, HO  
and N scale model railroading.

There you'll find three large  
model railroads, constructed and  
operated by the East Bay Model  
Engineers Society (EBMES) whose 80  
members contribute their time,  
talent and skills to make these into  
one of the finest model railroads  
ever seen.

History and operations are re-  
presentative of those seen through-  
out California. For example, the  
Loop area replicates pro-  
cesses of the Southern  
California Santa Fe railroads with  
freight trains passing over  
hills to gain elevation.  
Separate equipment ranging  
from the great steam locomotives  
through to the most modern  
diesel locomotives pulling long  
passenger trains.  
The Golden State Model  
Railroad Museum is only 19 years  
old, but it is one of the oldest mod-  
el groups in the nation. It started  
as a group of people who build  
model layouts — the East  
Bay Model Engineers Society — is  
the oldest and largest clubs  
in the world.  
The society was founded in 1933  
as one of the oldest mod-  
el groups in the nation. It started  
as a group of people who build  
model layouts ranging from  
model airplanes,  
boats and model trains.  
The club may have been  
called the Golden State Model  
Engineers Society in Oakland.

In 1934, the club started its first  
train layout, in O scale, in the base-  
ment of Grahme Hardy's Book  
Store in Oakland. In 1936, the so-  
ciety expanded and moved to the  
baggage room of the Western Pa-  
cific Depot with an HO-scale layout.  
By 1937, EBMES had become  
strictly a model railroad  
club.

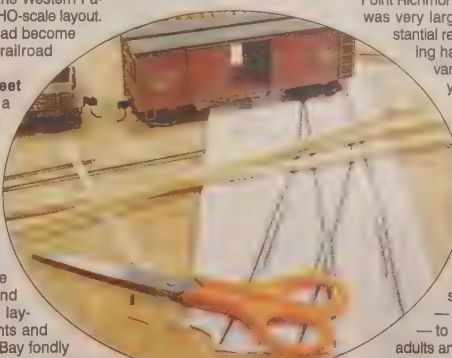
**Halleck Street  
(1940-1985):** After a  
brief move in 1939  
to the Key System  
offices, the club  
moved in April  
1940 to its long-  
term home in a  
Santa Fe ware-  
house at 4075 Hal-  
leck St. in Oak-  
land. For 40 years  
the club built HO, O  
and eventually N  
scale layouts.  
Many residents and  
visitors to the East Bay fondly  
remember the layouts on Halleck  
Street.

The building itself was 100 x 125  
feet located in an industrial area  
right next to the Southern Pacific  
tracks. The building was apparently  
never in great shape, and over the  
years, maintenance issues contin-  
ued to be a problem.

The O scale layout was roughly  
63 by 100 feet and consisted of  
several separate divisions. The Santa  
Fe Western ran standard gauge  
equipment around the edge of the  
space, while the Oakland, Antioch  
and Eastern ran trolleys and elec-  
tric freight. There were two narrow-  
gauge railways: the Potterville West-  
ern (On30) and the Denver and  
South Park (On3).

The 33 by 80-foot HO scale lay-  
out was found in the back of the  
building. It contained over 2,900 feet  
of track, including mainline pas-  
senger and freight service (the

Santa Fe Central), electric traction  
(East Bay Traction Co), branch line  
facilities (Cajon and West Poke-  
chop) and a narrow gauge line  
(Sierra and Pacific Coast).



The N scale layout, the Santa Fe  
Eastern, was the last addition to the  
club and had over four scale miles  
of track.

The days on Halleck Street saw  
some noteworthy events besides  
the regular operating nights, and  
open houses. In 1939 and 1940,  
club members helped in the con-  
struction of an O scale train dis-  
play at the World's Fair held on  
Treasure Island. In 1947, EBMES  
hosted the first West Coast Na-  
tional NMRA convention.

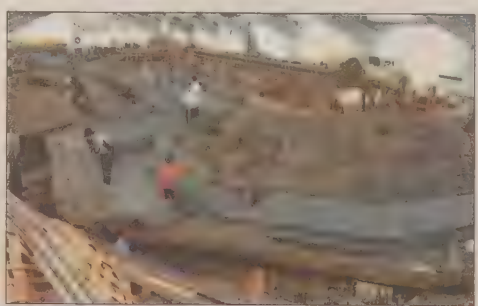
In the early 1980s, the building  
had deteriorated to the point  
where members began thinking  
about finding a new home. In  
1984, an indecision was elimi-  
nated: Santa Fe decided they  
needed the Halleck Street prop-  
erty for something else. The  
search was on for a new building.

**Point Richmond (1985-pre-  
sent):** The following year, EBMES  
relocated to a much larger space,  
our current building, located in  
Miller-Knox Regional Shoreline in  
Point Richmond. The original space  
was very large, but needed sub-  
stantial renovations. The build-  
ing had been occupied by  
various tenants over the  
years, most recently a  
paint manufacturer,  
and we needed to  
clean, redesign  
and renovate the  
interior as well as  
put on a new  
roof.

We incorporated  
as the  
Golden State  
Model Railroad  
Museum. Our goals were  
— and continue to be  
— to provide education to  
adults and children interested  
in model railroading, prototype rail-  
road history and operations. We are  
a California non-profit corporation  
and qualify as a tax-exempt  
501(c)(3), which means that we can  
accept tax-deductible donations.  
The actual layouts are constructed,  
operated and maintained by the  
East Bay Model Engineers Society  
(EBMES).

Sadly model railroads do not  
transport well, and little of the Hal-  
leck Street layouts could be saved,  
except for rolling stock and some  
structures. Old-timers may recognize  
a few of these on the new layouts,  
particularly on the O scale layout.

One advantage of starting fresh  
is that you can "do it right." Rather  
than haphazardly filling the build-  
ing with trains, many plans were  
formulated and examined. These  
considered not only the layouts,  
but the public spaces as well, to  
ensure that visitors would have the



### IF YOU GO

**What:** The Golden State Model Railroad Museum  
**Where:** 900-A Dornan Drive in the Miller-Knox Regional Shoreline Park,  
Point Richmond  
**When:** Wednesday and Saturdays, noon to 5 p.m. (no trains running)  
Sundays, noon to 5 p.m. (trains running)  
**Admission Prices:** \$3 for adults  
\$2 for seniors and children under 12  
\$7 for families  
**Visit online:** [www.gsrmr.org](http://www.gsrmr.org) The museum is fully wheelchair accessible.

best possible experience when vis-  
iting our club. Visitors were not  
shoe-horned in as an afterthought.  
The building has an elevated cen-  
tral walkway, wheelchair access  
and controlled lighting.

Finally, in 1989, construction be-  
gan on the three layouts you see  
today. We opened our doors to the  
public in 1991 and we continue to  
build and modify the layouts. As our  
many regular visitors know, there is  
always something new to see.

The club has gone through  
many changes over the years, both  
in location and in membership. Our  
move was traumatic but now we  
have the dual advantage of being  
one of the oldest model railroad

clubs in the world, in a brand new  
facility, benefitting from almost 60  
years of model railroad experience.

The museum is in Point Rich-  
mond at 900-A Dornan Drive in the  
Miller-Knox Regional Shoreline Park.  
The museum is open with trains run-  
ning every Sunday from noon to 5  
p.m. from now until December.

The museum is also open  
Wednesdays and Saturdays from  
noon to 5 p.m., but no trains are run-  
ning. The museum is fully wheel-  
chair accessible.

Admission prices on Sunday are  
\$3 for adults; \$2 for senior citizens  
and children under 12 and \$7 for  
families. Visit the museum online at  
[www.gsrmr.org](http://www.gsrmr.org).



# USS Potomac setting sail on more cruises this year

LINNEA SMITH JESSUP  
STAFF WRITER

**OAKLAND** — Planning a private party? Interested in celebrating Mother's or Father's Day afloat? Looking for a great activity for visiting friends and family?

Starting next month, the USS Potomac will offer an expanded schedule of regular and special cruises, all departing Jack London Square and featuring the historic former Presidential yacht of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

## Angel Island cruise

One exciting new offering is the Angel Island Adventure: A four-and-one-half-hour trip. Passengers embark the famous yacht for a 45-minute cruise to Angel Island, where they transfer to trams for an informative tour of the many buildings and facilities on this island that housed soldiers and immigrants over many decades.

The day includes lunch on Angel Island and return cruise to Jack London Square, all for \$85 per person. Departures are June 22, July 27, Aug. 24, Sept. 27, Oct. 25 and Nov. 15.

## Special events

Also scheduled this year are several special event cruises:

**Opening Day, April 30** — Grab a ticket for this weekend's Opening Day on the Bay sailing, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a box lunch. Rate of \$80 per person applies to all passengers.

**Mother's Day, May 14** — a brunch cruise from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Including a mimosa cocktail and brunch for \$65 per person, \$40 for children under 14.

**Father's Day, June 18** — Treat dad to a three-hour Bay cruise and a box lunch for \$60 per adult,

\$35 for children under 14.

**Independence Day, July 4** — Toast July 4th with champagne and enjoy the fireworks around the Bay on a three-hour evening sailing, 7:30 - 10:30 p.m. Rate of \$125 per person applies to all passengers.

## History cruises

The USS Potomac continues to make history cruises with departures on the first and third Thursdays and second and fourth Saturdays during May through October. These two-hour trips depart at 11 a.m. and let passengers learn all about the ship while enjoying the views.

Basic passenger rate is \$40, groups of 20 or more pay \$30 each (with advance reservation required), while passengers 60 or older pay \$35 and youth 12 and under pay \$20.

## Private charter

Since the USS Potomac Association started offering tours of the Potomac in 1995, many groups have enjoyed a private charter to celebrate a wedding, anniversary, birthday, corporate festivity or reunion. The 165-foot yacht can comfortably accommodate 120 for a cruise, or 80-85 if food and drink is being served.

"We can cruise almost any area of the Bay and depart any time of day," noted Marti Burchell, executive director. The vessel is available for charter Wednesday through Sunday.

## Dockside tours

When visiting Jack London Square, stop by the USS Potomac for a dockside tour, Wednesday and Friday between 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. and Sunday, noon - 3:30 p.m. throughout the year. These

tours are \$7 adult, \$5 for seniors and children 12 and under are free. Reservations should be made in advance for groups of 10 or more. The 45-minute tour includes a video and narrated tour through the yacht.

For more details, visit [www.usspotomac.org](http://www.usspotomac.org) or call 510-627-1215.

THE USS POTOMAC OFFERS regular and special cruises, all departing Jack London Square and featuring the historic former Presidential yacht of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

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Enjoy a catered brunch and Mimosa  
celebrate Mom's very special day

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White Truck	8.99	6.99	Meryvale Starmont Chardonnay
Kanu Chenin Blanc	7.99	6.99	Au Bon Climat Chardonnay
Hess Select Chardonnay	9.99	7.99	Santa Margherita Pinot Grigio
Rodney Strong Sonoma Chardonnay	9.99	8.99	Chateau D'Armanj Sauternes
Las Brisas Verdejo	9.99	9.99	Conundrum

### RED WINES

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Make sure your front door includes the appropriate architectural style and accessory features to complement its design.

## Threshold to luxurious living

ARA

What does your front door say about you? In a culture where customization reigns supreme, homeowners are now choosing more upscale, custom entry doors to make bold statements about their homes and their lifestyles. Homeowners now seek a varying array of options and features in their entry door — from distinctive hardware to custom wood carvings — to set the overall tone for their home and enhance curb appeal.

### Architectural style

Choose an entry door that matches the architectural style of your home. Whether you have a stately Colonial residence, a Craftsman style bungalow, a rustic cabin, or a modern mansion, make sure your front door includes the appropriate architectural style and accessory features to complement its design.

### Custom carvings

Achieve a truly customized look with wood carvings that add artistic detail or enhance design. Marvin Entry Doors, from Marvin Windows and Doors, offer hand-carved appliques, embossing and engraving to showcase logos, family crests and other unique details.

### The warmth of wood

Choose an entry door made of a hardwood, like Mahogany, for a finely crafted, furniture-grade quality. Marvin Windows and Doors offers entry doors made of solid Honduran Mahogany and Hon-

duran Cedar, along with White Oak, Walnut, and Cherry that add richness, warmth and elegance.

### Let in the light

Many architects are now specifying homes with taller ceilings that maximize natural light while increasing depth and dimension. Create a dramatic entrance that accommodates taller ceilings with an entry door of significant proportions. Adding round top or transom windows above and side lites alongside of the door increases height and adds to design possibilities.

### Decorative accents

Dressing up your door with the right accessories places the finishing touches on your customized entrance. Marvin Entry Doors include options like hand-forged solid iron grilles for an old world appearance, an optional distressed look on rustic-styled

doors, or various art glass options.

### Find flexibility

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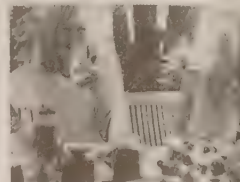
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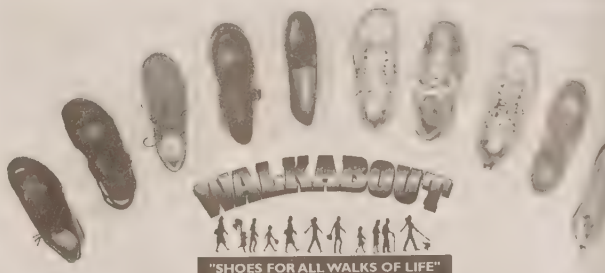
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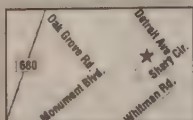
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# Rotisserie chicken and a package of tortillas equals six easy meals

BY KATHLEEN PURVIS  
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Rotisserie chicken is something fast you pick up on the way home. Tortillas are easy to keep on hand. If you put them together with a few more simple ingredients, you can have these dishes for dinner.

## CHICKEN MOLE 'LASAGNE'

2 tablespoons vegetable oil  
1/2 large onion, diced  
2 teaspoons ground cumin  
2 teaspoons ground oregano  
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
2 teaspoons unsweetened cocoa powder  
1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
1 cup (8 ounces) tomato juice  
1 cup (8 ounces) low-sodium beef broth  
2 cups shredded cooked chicken  
1 to 2 tablespoons yellow cornmeal  
About 8 corn tortillas  
2 cups shredded Mexican cheese blend or Monterey Jack

Heat vegetable oil over medium-high in a large saucepan or Dutch oven. Add onion. When it sizzles, cover and reduce heat to medium-

low. Cook about 10 minutes, until onion is softened.

Uncover and raise heat to medium. Add cumin, oregano, cinnamon, cocoa powder, cayenne and garlic. Stir, cooking a minute or two until fragrant.

Stir in tomato juice, beef broth and chicken. Bring to a boil. Stir in cornmeal and cook 1 to 2 minutes, until thickened. Remove from heat. Spray a 9-inch pie plate with nonstick cooking spray. Place two tortillas, overlapping, on bottom of pie plate. (Tortillas won't completely cover the bottom; that's OK.)

Top with a quarter of the chicken and sauce and a quarter of the cheese. Continue layering, ending with sauce and cheese.

Bake at 375 degrees for about 25 minutes, until cheese is melted and sauce is bubbling. Cut in wedges to serve.

Makes 6 servings.  
Adapted from "The Itty Bitty Kitchen Handbook," by Justin Spring (Broadway, \$12.95).

## CHICKEN TORTILLA SOUP

This is a great thing to make when you've picked up a couple of chickens on sale. While you serve

one, cover the skin and bones from the second one with broth. Strain and refrigerate overnight to remove the fat, then finish the soup quickly the next night. Or skip that step and just use plain chicken broth.

1 cooked chicken  
6 cups (48 ounces) chicken broth  
1/4 cup vegetable oil, divided  
6 corn tortillas, cut in 1/4-inch strips

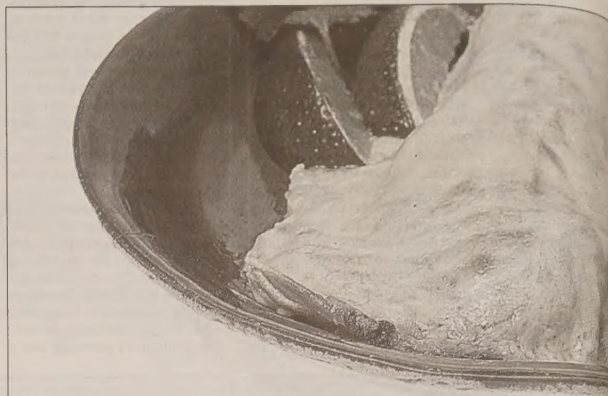
1/2 large onion, diced  
3 cloves garlic, minced  
1 (10-ounce) can diced tomatoes with green chiles

Lime wedges  
1/2 cup chopped cilantro  
1 cup cubed Mexican cheese, such as queso fresco, or shredded Mexican-style cheese blend

1 avocado, pitted, peeled and diced

Pull meat off chicken and dice into bite-size pieces. Refrigerate until ready to use. Discard skin and bones, or place in saucepan with chicken broth.

Bring to a simmer, cover and cook about 20 minutes. Strain, discarding skin and bones. Refrigerate broth and discard fat from top. Put 2 tablespoons oil in a skil-



**CHICKEN BURRITO BAKE:** Mix shredded chicken, green tomato salsa and cheese. Roll into tortillas, then cover with prepared Alfredo sauce and bake.

let. Working in batches if necessary, add tortilla strips and cook until lightly brown and crisp. Remove with a slotted spoon and drain on paper towels.

Heat remaining 2 tablespoons oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add onion, cover, reduce heat and cook about 10 minutes, until softened. Uncover and add garlic. Cook 1 to 2 minutes. Increase heat to medium.

Add tomatoes and about half the tortilla strips. Bring to a boil, then remove from heat and cool slightly. Puree in the pot using an immersion blender, or place in a countertop blender, working carefully in batches.

Return soup to stove over medium heat. Stir in chicken. To

serve, place a few tortilla strips in a bowl. Top with soup, then garnish with lime wedges, cilantro, cheese and avocado.

Makes 6 servings.

## CHICKEN BURRITO BAKE

You can use the reduced-fat Alfredo sauce, but this is still very rich. All you'd need on the side is a green salad.

4 cups shredded cooked chicken

LAURA MUELLER/CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/KRT

1 cup tomato salsa (16-ounce) can salsa verde

1 (2-cup) package Mexican-style cheese blend

8 to 10 (8-inch) flour tortillas

2 (10-ounce) containers of Alfredo pasta sauce

Optional garnishes: lettuce, diced avocado, cilantro leaves

Preheat oven to 375 degrees

See CHICKEN BURRITO BAKE



**CHICKEN TORTILLA SOUP:** Simmer chicken bones and skin with packaged chicken broth. The next day, make a fast soup with chicken, fried corn tortilla strips and canned tomatoes with chiles.

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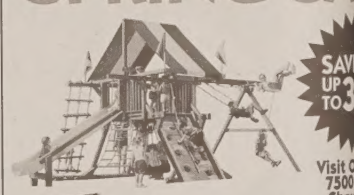
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# Chicken

PAGE 6

Place chicken, tomato salsa and 1/2 cup of cheese in a large mixing bowl. Stir to combine. Spoon about 1/4 cup chicken mixture down the middle of a tortilla. Fold the tortilla over and roll up. Repeat with remaining chicken mixture. Spray tops of enchiladas lightly with cooking spray. Spread remaining can of enchilada sauce over the tops of the tortillas. Spread remaining cheese over the top. Cover tightly with foil and bake in a 375-degree oven for 25 minutes.

## MOO SHU CHICKEN WRAPS

This started several years ago with a recipe from Jane Snow of the Akron Beacon Journal. We've adapted it over the years, changing the sauce slightly. It's still one of the handiest leftover ideas we know.

2 tablespoons vegetable oil  
1 (8-ounce) bag coleslaw mix  
2 cups shredded cooked chicken  
2 tablespoons hoisin sauce (see note)  
1 tablespoon soy sauce  
4 flour tortillas

Heat oil in a nonstick skillet. Add coleslaw mix and cook briefly, 2 to 3 minutes, just until slightly softened but still crunchy. Add chicken and cook another minute or two, to heat through. Stir in hoisin sauce and soy sauce. Remove from heat.

Place tortillas on a plate and cover with plastic wrap. Microwave on high for 45 to 60 seconds, until softened.

Place 1/4 of the chicken and cabbage mixture on a tortilla. Fold each end over, then roll to make an enclosed wrap. Place on plate seam

down and serve.

Makes 4 servings.

Note: Hoisin sauce is found on the Asian products aisle of most supermarkets.

## CHICKEN QUESADILLAS

1 cup canned vegetarian refried beans (save remainder for another meal)

1/4 cup bottled salsa  
Nonstick cooking spray  
8 flour tortillas  
2 cups shredded cooked chicken  
2 cups shredded Mexican-blend cheese

Sour cream and additional salsa for garnish (optional)

Combine refried beans and salsa in a mixing bowl. Preheat oven to 200 degrees.

Spray one side of a tortilla lightly with cooking spray. Place sprayed side down in a nonstick skillet. Spread with about 1/4 cup bean mixture.

Top with 1/2 cup shredded chicken and about 1/2 cup cheese. Top with another tortilla and spray top lightly with spray.

Cook over medium heat, pressing down with a spatula until lightly brown. Turn and cook second side until lightly brown. Place on a baking sheet in oven to keep warm while you continue with remaining tortillas. Cut into wedges and serve with sour cream and additional salsa.

Makes 4 servings.

Adapted from "The Essential Eating Well Cookbook," (Countryman Press, 2004).

## Chicken tips

Most of us end up picking up one



LAURA MUELLER/CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/KRT

**CHICKEN ENCHILADAS:** Heat chicken in a simple mixture of enchilada sauce and tomato sauce, then roll in corn tortillas and bake.

of those rotisserie chickens occasionally. For this story, we ended up with enough of those black plastic "boats" to float an armada. We also learned a few tricks:

■ Watch the sales. Supermarket roasted chickens can be expensive. Chickens in warehouse clubs are more affordable. However, even in supermarkets, unsold chickens usually are marked down every four hours or so. Some stores schedule

regular sale days, often Sundays, when the chickens are several dollars cheaper.

■ Long marinating times and slow roasting can give the meat a cottony texture. So the leftovers work best in dishes that cover them with sauce or broth.

■ A whole rotisserie chicken usually feeds two adults and yields about 4 cups of cooked meat.

■ If you pick up a chicken on

the way home from work, it might have to wait before you serve dinner. Should you keep it hot all that time, or chill it quickly and reheat it?

Keep it hot, say food safety experts. Getting it thoroughly chilled will take too long. If you're eating in about an hour, wrap the chicken in foil to keep it moist, then put it in a 200-degree oven until you're ready to serve.

## CHICKEN ENCHILADAS

1 (10-ounce) can enchilada sauce  
1 (8-ounce) can tomato sauce  
2 cups shredded cooked chicken  
1 (8-ounce) package shredded cheese blend or Monterey Jack  
8 (6-inch) corn tortillas  
Nonstick cooking spray  
Combine 1 can enchilada sauce and tomato sauce in a saucepan. Heat until steaming. Stir in chicken and cook a few minutes. Remove from heat. Stir in 1 cup cilantro and jalapenos.



LAURA MUELLER/CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/KRT

**MOO SHU CHICKEN WRAPS:** Stir-fry coleslaw mix, chopped chicken, hoisin sauce and soy sauce, roll in flour tortillas.



LAURA MUELLER/CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/KRT

**CHICKEN QUESADILLAS:** Mix vegetarian refried beans and salsa and spread on flour tortillas. Top with shredded chicken and cheese, then brown in a nonstick skillet.

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A black and white photograph of a plush, upholstered sofa. The sofa has a deep seat and a high, rounded back. It is adorned with several decorative pillows: two on the left side and one on the right side. The pillows have different textures and patterns, including one with a prominent ruffled or fringed edge. The sofa is set against a plain background, and the lighting highlights its soft, cushioned form.

[illegible]